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OF THE

General Conference

OF THE

M. E. CHURCH IN CANADA

1878.

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Queen's University at Kingston

JOURNALS

OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

M. E. CHURCH IN CANADA,

HELD IN THE

CITY OF BELLEVILLE, ONT.,

Aug. 27 to Sept. 7, 1878.

HAMILTON:
PRINTED AT THE C. C. ADVOCATE OFFICE, 74 KING STREET EAST.
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General Conference, 1878.

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N. A.

JOURNALS

OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF 1878.

PART I.

MINUTES.

The General Conference of the M. E. Church in Canada met according to appointment and pursuant to call, in the first M. E. Church, city of Belleville, on Tuesday, August 27th, 1878, at 10 o'clock, a.m.

The Rev. A. Carman, D. D., Bishop, presiding.

The Bishop read, in opening the religious services, the forty-third chapter of Isaiah and announced the 704th hymn; after singing, prayer was offered by Revs. A. D. Traveller, Thos. Argue, and E. Lounsbury. Bishop Carman next read the seventeenth chapter of John's Gospel, and after the singing of the 702nd hymn, Revs. Thos. Webster, D.D., S. Morrison, and J. H. Andrews engaged in prayer; the Bishop concluded with the Lord's prayer, the Conference heartily joining with him.

The Conference then sang the verse beginning, "Other refuge have I none," after which the Bishop called for the certified lists of delegates, which were read and assented to. They are as follows:

NIAGARA CONFERENCE.

James Gardiner,
E. Lounsbury,
J. N. Elliott,
W. D. Hughson,
J. Reynolds,
S. Card,
J. H. Kennedy,
W. Benson,
J. R. Phillips,
B. C. Moore,
C. E. Benson,
S. L. Kerr,
C. Burdette.
R. C. Parsons,
W. G. Brown, M.A.,
J. S. Williamson,
E. Bristol,
O. G. Collamore,
T. Webster, D.D.,
E. H. Pilcher, D.D.,
W. H Shaw,
J. T. Davis,
A. E. Griffith,
J. Wood,
B. Bristol.

RESERVES.

J. F. Fairchilds,
M. Dimmick,
H. Locke,
J. Laycock,
J. B. Cutler.

ONTARIO CONFERENCE.

George Abbs,
Amos Campbell,
Jas. Curts,
F. M. Finn,
J. R. Jaques, D.D., Ph.D.,
G. Miller,
W. Pirritte,
C. A. Simpson,
G. Bennett,
Thos. Argue,
G. Clark,
R. B. Denike,
J. H. Hilts,
B. Lane, M.A.,
S. Morrison,
J. M. Simpson,
R. Sanderson.

RESERVES.

R. Large,
J. C. Pomeroy,
R. E. Lund,
Charles Taylor.

BAY QUINTE CONFERENCE.

Wm. Service,
T. W. Pickett,
I. B. Aylsworth, M.A., L.L.D.,
Joseph Young,
S. G. Stone, D.D.,
A. D. Traveller,

W. Graham,
W. Blair, B.A.,
J. H. Andrews,
E. I. Badgley, M.A., L.L.D., B.D.,
David Wilson,
A. Martin,
F. B. Stratton,
W. Brown,
F. Chisholm,
John E. Mavety,
G. S. White,
H. Williams.

RESERVES.

J. P. Wilson, B.A.,
J. D. Bell,
Eli Woodcock,
B. F. Austin, B.A.,
C. S. Eastman.

ORDERED, That the seat of any delegate who may be absent at roll call shall be filled for that sitting by the first reserve delegate then present.

After fixing bar, the roll of the Conference was called, and the following vacancies filled:

H. Locke filled the seat of J. Wood; R. Large, that of F. M. Finn; and E. Woodcock, that of J. Mavety.

F. B. STRATTON was duly elected Secretary.

J. S. WILLIAMSON, Assistant Secretary.

THOS. ARGUE, Journal Secretary.

ORDERED, That when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet at three o'clock, p.m.

A committee on Divine Service was appointed, consisting of B. Lane, W. Pirritte, E. Lounsbury, and I. B. Aylsworth.

On motion, the Conference adjourned.

Benediction by G. Bennett.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27th.

SECOND SITTING, 3 P.M.

Religious services were conducted by David Wilson.

Roll called. Journals read and approved.

Rev. Dr. Todd, Fraternal Delegate from the American General Conference of the M. E. Church, was introduced, and invited to a seat on the platform.

Bishop Carman then read the Episcopal address, after which J. M. Simpson led the Conference in singing, "Saviour, more than life to me."

Rev. David Couch, of West Wisconsin Conference, was introduced and invited to a seat.

ORDERED, That the hours of session be fixed from ten to twelve, and from three to five, until rules of order be adopted.

Jas. Gardiner, Wm. Brown, and W. Pirritte, were appointed a committee on Rules of Order.

ORDERED, That we have a committee of seven on Nominations, consisting of E. Bristol, J. H. Andrews, A. D. Traveller, Jas. Curts, Samuel Morrison, E. Lounsbury, and W. G. Brown.

The names and number of the ordinary committees were ordered. (*See report of next session.*)

W. Blair, B.A., was appointed reporter for the *C. C. Advocate.*

Rev. D. Wilson was granted leave of absence.

It was ordered that the introduction of Fraternal Delegates, and arrangements of meetings be referred to a special committee of three, viz.: W. Pirritte, I. B. Aylsworth, B. Lane.

Joseph Young was appointed reporter for the *Christian Advocate*, N. Y.

Rev. D. Couch was requested to preach in the evening, and gave his assent thereto.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28th.

THIRD SITTING, 10 A.M.

Conference was opened in the usual form; Rev. B. Bristol leading the devotional exercises.

B. F. Austin took the seat of J. Mavety, and J. D. Bell that of D. Wilson.

The Committee on Rules of Order presented their report, which was read, received and adopted, as follows:

1st.—The Conference shall meet at ten o'clock, a.m., and adjourn at twelve; meet at three and adjourn at half past five, p.m.; but may alter their time of meeting, and adjourn at their discretion.

2nd.—The President shall take the chair precisely at the hour to which the Conference stood adjourned, and cause the same to be opened by reading the Scriptures, singing and prayer; and on the appearance of a quorum shall have the journal of the preceding session read and approved, when the business of the Conference shall proceed in the following order—namely, 1. Reports—first of standing committees, and then of special committees. 2. Petitions, memorials and appeals.

3rd.—The President shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Conference; but in case of such appeal, the question shall be taken without debate.

4th.—He shall appoint all committees not otherwise specially ordered by the Conference; but any member may decline serving on more than one committee, unless all the members of the Conference shall have been appointed on some committee.

5th.—When a motion, or resolution, is moved and seconded, or a report is presented, and is read by the Secretary, or stated by the President, it shall be deemed in possession of the Conference; nor shall any motion be withdrawn by the mover after being debated, without the consent of the Conference.

6th.—All motions and resolutions introduced by any member shall be reduced to writing, if the President, Secretary, or any two members require it.

7th.—No new motion or resolution shall be made until the one under consideration is disposed of, which may be done by adoption or rejection, unless one of the following motions should intervene, which motions shall have the precedence in the order in which they are placed—namely : Lay on the table, amendment, or a substitute, which also may be amended.

8th.—No member shall be interrupted while speaking except by the President, to call him to order when he departs from the question, uses personalities, or disrespectful language; but any member may call the attention of the President to the subject when he deems a speaker out of order; and any member may explain if he deems himself misrepresented.

9th.—When any member is about to speak in debate, or deliver any matter to the Conference, he shall rise from his seat and respectfully address himself to the President, and shall proceed when the President announces his name.

10th.—No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject, nor more than fifteen minutes at one time, without leave of the Conference, nor shall any member speak more than once until every member choosing to do so shall have spoken.

11th.—When any motion or resolution shall have passed, it shall be in order for any member who voted in the majority to move a re-consideration.

12th.—No member shall absent himself from the seat of the Conference without leave, unless he is sick or unable to attend.

13th.—No member shall be allowed to vote on any question who is not within the bar at the time when such question is put by the President, except by leave of the Conference, when such member has been necessarily absent.

14th.—Every member who shall be within the bar at the time when the question is put, shall give his vote, unless the Conference for special reasons excuse him.

15th.—No resolution altering or rescinding any rule of discipline shall be adopted, until it shall have been at least one day in the possession of the Conference.

16th.—A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate.

17th.—All business requiring the action of a committee, and of the Conference, shall be passed by motion, and order for reference, through the Conference.

ORDERED, That 100 copies of rules of order be printed for the use of this Conference.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on Nominations was read, filling the blanks as per order. It was received and adopted, as follows:

LAY DELEGATION—W. D. Hughson, A. E. Griffith, J. R. Jaques, G. Abbs, H. Williams, S. G. Stone; W. D. Hughson, *Convener.*

EPISCOPACY—T. Webster, O. G. Collamore, J. N. Elliott, B. Bristol, W. D. Hughson, S. Morrison, T. Argue, J. M. Simpson J. Curts, J. Hilts, W. Brown, A. D. Traveller, D. Wilson, S. G. Stone, W. Service.

ITINERACY—E. Lounsbury, S. Card, A. Campbell, W. H. Graham, J. H. Andrews.

CHURCH EXTENSION—O. G. Collamore, J. S. Williamson, G. Bennett, J. Mavety, G. Miller.

MISSIONARY INTERESTS—J. N. Elliott, Wm. Benson, W. G. Brown, Thomas Argue, Jas. Curts, W. Pirritte, A. D. Traveller, T. W. Pickett, W. H. Graham.

REVISION—W. G. Brown, E. H. Pilcher, Jas. Gardiner, Geo. Abbs, J. Curts, W. Pirritte, I. B. Aylsworth, F. B. Stratton, Wm. Brown.

TEMPORAL ECONOMY—E. Bristol, J. Gardiner, B. Lane, T. Argue, J. Young.

BOUNDARIES—C. E. Benson, J. H. Kennedy, R. Sanderson, J. M. Simpson, A. D. Traveller, S. G. Stone, W. H. Graham.

STATE OF THE CHURCH—J. T. Davis, R. Sanderson, J. R. Phillips, G. S. White, F. Chisholm.

LAW QUESTIONS—E. H. Pilcher, O. G. Collamore, J. H. Andrews, D. Wilson, S. Morrison.

FINANCE—S. L. Kerr, G. Clark, J. Mavety.

CAMP-MEETINGS—A. D. Traveller, W. Service, J. Wood, A. Campbell, B. Bristol, C. A. Simpson.

EDUCATION—J. S. Williamson, J. Reynolds, R. C. Parsons, C. A. Simpson, R. B. Denike, Wm. Blair, E. I. Badgley.

EVANGELISTS AND THEIR RELATION TO THE CHURCH—C. Burdette, J. Wood, W. H. Shaw, B. Lane, J. R. Jaques, D. Wilson, A. Martin.

THE CENTENARY OF CANADIAN METHODISM—T. Webster, W. H. Shaw, B. C. Moore, J. R. Jaques, F. M. Finn, G. Bennett, G. S. White, A. Martin, F. Chisholm.

INCORPORATIONS—Jas. Gardiner, B. C. Moore, G. Clark, S. G. Stone, E. I. Badgley.

TEMPERANCE—A. E. Griffith, R. Sanderson, F. Chisholm.

CORRESPONDENCE—E. I. Badgley, Dr. Jaques, J. Reynolds.

ADDRESSES TO EARL DUFFERIN AND TO THE MARQUIS OF LORNE—W. Pirritte, C. E. Benson, B. Lane.

OBITUARIES—S. Card, J. H. Hilts, H. Williams, T. Webster.

BOOK ROOM AND PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT—J. T. Davis, W. H. Shaw, J. N. Elliott, W. Pirritte, G. Miller, W. Brown, T. W. Pickett.

SABBATH SCHOOLS—A. E. Griffith, C. Burdette, C. A. Simpson, I. B. Aylsworth, Wm. Service.

ECUMENICAL METHODIST CONFERENCE—R. C. Parsons, S. Card, W. D. Hughson, S. Morrison, F. M. Finn, G. Abbs, J. Young, Dr. Stone, Dr. Badgley.

Adjourned. Benediction by J. R. Phillips.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28th.

FOURTH SITTING, 3 P.M.

Conference opened in due form. Religious services were conducted by Dr. Jaques.

Roll called. Minutes read and confirmed.

The seats of J. Mavety, D. Wilson and E. I. Badgley being vacant, were filled respectively by B. F. Austin, J. D. Bell and E. Woodcock, under rule.

A communication was read and received from a committee of the General Conference of the Methodist Lpiscopal Church, relating to an Ecumenical Conference of Methodism.

Ordered to be referred to a special committee of nine. (*See lists of Committees.*)

ORDERED, That the Secretary procure 100 copies of printed lists of committees.

On motion, the Charters of the Missionary Society and Alma College were referred to the Committee on Incorporations.

ORDERED, That the different topics allud d to in the Episcopal Address be referred to their appropriate committees.

The Book Agent read his report.

It was received, and referred to the Committee on the Publishing Interests of the Book Room.

Moved by W. Pirritte, seconded by Thomas Webster, and

RESOLVED, That all committees reporting chan es of discipline shall recite not only the page, part, chapter, section, and line proposed to be amended, but also the amended paragraph complete.

ORDERED, That the reception of Fraternal Delegates from the American General Conference of the M. E. Church be the order of the day on Friday p.m.

Papers presented by J. Reynolds and F. Chisholm for reference to the Committee on Law Questions, were, on motion, referred.

Adjourned. Benediction by Robert Sanderson.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29th.

FIFTH SITTING, 10 A.M.

Conference opened in the usual form.

Upon roll call, it was found the seats of J. Mavety, J. Wood, and J. T. Davis were vacant. They were respectively filled by J. P. Wilson, J. F. Fairchilds, and J. Laycock.

Report No. 3 of the Committee on Nominations was presented and adopted. *(See list.)*

A memorial from Chatham, signed by Philip Sulzer and George R. Smith, was read.

It was moved by W. Pirritte, seconded by Thos. Webster, and

RESOLVED, That a committee of five be appointed on petitions and memorials.

ORDERED, That the memorial of Philip Sulzer and George R. Smith be received, and referred to a Committee on Memorials.

James Gardiner was granted leave of absence; J. B. Cutler to take his place.

Two documents were presented by Bishop Carman, and referred to the Committee on Education.

Dr. Jaques, on motion, was added to the Committee on Education.

On motion, A. Martin and J. Mavety were added to the Committee on the Publishing Interests of the Book Room.

Papers from S. G. Stone and J. H. Hilts were presented, and referred to the Committee on Law Questions.

ORDERED, That when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet to-morrow morning, at 10 a.m.

J. S. Williamson, W. Pirritte, J. M. Simpson, Dr. Pilcher, and Dr. Aylsworth presented papers, which were referred to the Committee on Revision.

The Bishop named G. Abbs, E. Bristol, J. H. Andrews, G. Bennett and W. Brown as a Special Committee on Petitions and Memorials.

A communication from Rev. M. Benson was read and laid on the table.

Adjourned. Benediction by J. M. Simpson.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30th.

SIXTH SITTING, 10 A.M.

Religious services by S. Card.

After the roll call, the vacant seats of J. Mavety and W. Pirritte were filled by J. P. Wilson and R. Large.

It was moved and seconded that only positive actions of the Conference be recorded by the Secretary, unless it be requested by some member of the Conference that the negative action be recorded.

The Committee on Education read their first report. It was received and adopted.

The Report of the Book Committee was read, and referred to the Committee on the Publishing Interests of the Book Room.

The Report of the Church Extension Society and Board of Management was read, and referred to the Committee on Church Extension.

I. B. Aylsworth moved the reference to the Committee on Revision of papers on Discipline, pages 67 and 43, touching the reception of preachers in the interval of Conference.

They were referred.

A. Martin moved to add a clause relating to certificates to be given to probationers and members at the time of their reception.

It was referred to the Committee.

J. M. Simpson moved the reference of a paper on Baptismal Ceremony.

It was not referred.

Also moved for reference to the Committee on Revision, matters on pages 177 and 42 of Discipline.

They were referred.

F. M. Finn moved the reference to the Committee on Revision of the method of the appointment of Presiding Elders.

It was referred.

On motion of J. Gardiner, the following was referred:

That it be an instruction to the Committee on Itinerancy, to cite the Journals of the Annual Conference in their report, in all cases of reference or appeal; except in appeals from persons tried in their Annual Conference.

The Committee on Obituaries read their report, which, on motion, was re-committed.

The Report of the Corresponding Secretary of the Church Extension Society was read, and referred to the Committee on Church Extension.

The Committee on Revision presented their first report, which was read, and laid on the table, under rule.

The Report of the Treasurer of Albert College was read, and referred to the Committee on Education.

A communication was read from W. J. Palmer, inviting the Conference to visit the Deaf and Dumb Institute located near

Belleville. It was received, and referred to the Committee on Divine Service.

I. B. Aylsworth moved to refer the following to the Committee on Incorporations :

That a Committee be appointed to construct a model deed, and secure a Dominion or Provincial Act of Parliament, to legalize an abridged form thereof.

It was referred.

J. N. Elliott and F. Chisholm moved the reference of papers to the Committee on Law Questions.

They were referred.

Adjourned. Benediction by W. H. Shaw.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30th.

SEVENTH SITTING, 3 P.M.

The Conference was opened with singing, and prayer by James Gardiner.

Roll called.

On motion of James Gardiner, it was resolved that the roll call is not complete until the seats of absent members are filled from the list of reserves.

B. F. Austin took the seat of S. G. Stone ; J. P. Wilson, that of J. Mavety ; and J. F. Fairchilds, that of J. Wood.

Journals read and approved.

The reception of Fraternal Delegates, being the order of the day, was called for.

The credentials of Rev. Dr. Todd, as Fraternal Delegate from the American General Conference of the M [illegible] urch to the M. E. Church in Canada, were presented and read.

The address bearing the fraternal greetings of the M. E. Church in the United States was presented by Dr. Todd, and read by the Secretary.

Referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

Dr. Todd then delivered his address.

A communication was received from G. W. Woodruff, Secretary of the American General Conference of the M. E. Church, and, on motion,

It was referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

The report of the Committee on the Centenary of Canadian Methodism was read, and laid on the table for further consideration.

A memorial was presented by the Women's Missionary Society.

It was read, received, and referred to the Committee on Missionary Interests.

A report of the General Conference Missionary Secretary was read, and, on motion,

Referred to the Committee on Missionary Interests.

A communication was read from J. McLean.

Received and referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

A. Martin was granted leave of absence for the next sitting.

ORDERED, That R. B. Denike be added to the Committee on Missionary Interests and Boundaries.

ORDERED, That S. G. Stone and E. H. Pilcher be added to the Committee on Church Extension.

S. G. Stone having arrived since roll call, and B. F. Austin, the reserve delegate, not having been in his place, it was resolved that Bro. Stone take his seat.

E. H. Pilcher moved the reference of a paper on Discipline, page 82, section 3, to the Committee on Revision.

It was referred.

Also one relating to a change in the form of receiving members from other churches.

It was referred.

W. Benson moved the reference of a paper to the Committee on Revision, touching page 21, section 1, answer 5.

It was referred.

Dr. Pilcher moved the reference of a paper, on page 80 of Discipline, relating to the reception of members.

It was referred.

Adjourned. Benediction by W. D. Hughson.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31st.

EIGHTH SITTING, 10 A.M.

Religious services by R. C. Parsons.

Roll called.

J. Mavety's place filled by B. F. Austin; A. Martin's, by J. D. Bell.

Minutes of previous sitting confirmed.

The Committee on Itinerancy presented their first report, which was read.

It was moved that the portions of the report referring to appeals be referred to the Committee on Law Questions.

The motion was lost.

The Committee on Episcopacy presented their first report, which was read and adopted.

The Committee on Lay Delegation reported, No. 1.
The report was laid on the table, under rule.

The report of the Committee on Publishing Interests was read.

The Committee on Church Extension presented their first report, which was read and adopted.

The Committee on Obituaries read their first report, which was adopted.

The report No. 2 of the Committee on Revision was read and laid on the table, under rule.

A communication from H. L. Gardiner (managing editor of the Hamilton *Spectator*), was read, and referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

S. G. Stone moved the reference of a Constitutional question to the Committee on Law Questions, which was referred.

W. Pirritte moved to refer a paper relating to Preachers' Certificates, on page 57 of Discipline, to the Committee on Revision.

Not referred.

I. B. Aylsworth moved to refer a paper on page 56, section 9, to the Committee on Revision.

It was referred.

J. H. Hilts moved the reference of a paper to the Committee on Revision, in relation to the formation of Districts.

It was referred.

W. Benson moved the reference of a paper touching the Superannuates.

It was referred to the Committee on Temporal Economy.

F. Chisholm and J. D. Bell moved the reference of papers to the Committee on Law Questions.

It was ordered that the collections taken on Sabbath be paid to the Treasurer of the Finance Committee, R. B. Denike.

Adjourned. Benediction by S. L. Kerr.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31st.

NINTH SITTING, 3 P.M.

Conference opened in the usual form, with singing and prayer by B. C. Moore.

Minutes of previous sitting confirmed.

J. P. Wilson took the seat of J. Mavety; B. F. Austin, that of A. Martin.

Rev. Bishop Haven, D.D., of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was introduced, and warmly welcomed to a seat on the platform.

Bishop Haven then delivered an address.

It was moved by W. Pirritte, seconded by Dr. Webster, and

RESOLVED, That we hail with great delight the presence amongst us of Rev. Bishop Haven, of the Methodist Episcopal Church. We are very much gratified by his visit, encouraged by his words, and cheered by his address. We assure the Bishop of our profound regard for himself and the Church of which he is an honored superintendent. We sympathize with him in his indisposition, and devoutly pray he may be speedily restored to wonted health, and that himself and daughter may be prospered in their journey; and that in the providence of God they may be both brought in safety to their own land and to their own home.

The above resolution was supported by several of the brethren, and unanimously carried by a rising vote.

Adjourned. Benediction by F. M. Finn.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd.

TENTH SITTING, 10 A.M.

Religious services by W. G. Brown.

Roll called. Journals read and approved.

J. Mavety's seat was filled by B. F. Austin.

On motion it was ordered that the reception of Fraternal Delegates, from the Methodist Church of Canada, be the order of the day to-morrow afternoon.

The Committee on Law Questions presented their first report, which was read, and ordered to be taken up item by item.

First item taken up.

Moved, that it be adopted.

Moved, in amendment, that it be re-committed with the following instructions: That the item be so changed as to read, "Can any member of the M. E. Church in Canada hold membership in two Quarterly Conferences at the same time?"

Amendment prevailed.

Second item adopted.

Moved, that the third item be adopted.

Moved, in amendment, that it be laid on the table.

The amendment prevailed.

Fourth item. Moved to adopt.

Moved, in amendment, that the form of the question be so changed as to read "Without using the prayer of Consecration."

The amendment carried.

Fifth item adopted.

Sixth item adopted.

Moved to adopt seventh item.

Moved to amend the answer so as to read, "They have the powers prescribed by Discipline."

Amendment carried.

Moved that the question, with its answer, be laid on the table.

Carried.

The Bishop announced that Rev. Dr. Todd, Fraternal Delegate, was about to take his leave of the Conference, whereupon business was suspended, and the reverend doctor delivered his parting address.

The following resolution was then offered :

Moved by J. Curts, and seconded by W. D. Hughson, that

WHEREAS the visit of the Rev. J. Todd, D.D., Fraternal Delegate from the Methodist Episcopal Church to this Conference, and the able manner in which he has discharged his duty as delegate, as well as his eloquent utterances from the pulpit and platform, have been the occasion of great enjoyment and pleasure to us ; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we convey to Dr. Todd our high appreciation of his personal worth, and of the value of his services during his visit, and also a warm recognition of the kind words in which he has expressed the interest of the Church he represents, as well as his own in our prosperity ; and we further assure the Rev. Dr. that the best wishes of this Conference will follow him and his estimable lady to their home.

The resolution was supported by several of the brethren, and unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

Report of the Committee on Law Questions resumed.

Eighth item. Moved to adopt.

The motion was pending at the time of adjournment.

Adjourned. Benediction by A. Campbell.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd.

ELEVENTH SITTING, 3 P.M.

Conference opened in due form.

The roll was called, and vacancies filled as follows:

J. Mavety's place by B. F. Austin, and that of J. R. Jaques by R. Large.

Journals read and confirmed.

Eighth item of the report of the Committee on Law Questions, pending at the time of adjournment, was taken up.

Moved, in amendment, that the word "only" be struck from the item.

Amendment lost.

Original motion put and lost.

Moved, that the ninth item be adopted.

Moved, in amendment, that the word "personal" be struck out.

Amendment carried.

The item, as amended, was adopted.

Tenth item was not adopted.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on Law Questions was adopted as amended.

The third report of the Committee on Revision was read, and laid on the table, under rule.

D. Wilson moved the reference of a paper on page 38, section 5, of Discipline, to the Committee on Revision.

It was not referred.

W. Pirritte moved the reference of a paper to the Committee Revision .

It was referred.

Also, one in relation to the business of the Quarterly Conference.

It was referred.

On motion of G. Abbs, a paper was referred to the Committee on Law Questions.

J. S. Williamson moved the reference of a paper to the Committee on Law Questions.

It was referred.

H. Williams moved the reference of two papers to the Committee on Law Questions.

They were referred.

G. Miller moved to refer a paper to the Committee on Law Questions.

It was referred.

A. E. Griffith moved to refer a paper to the Committee on Law Questions.

It was referred.

I. B. Aylsworth moved the reference of a paper to the Committee on Revision, touching District Conferences.

It was referred.

W. G. Brown moved a paper to the Committee on Law Questions.

It was referred.

R. Sanderson moved the reference of a paper to the Committee on Law Questions.

It was referred.

R. Sanderson moved to refer a second paper to the Committee on Law Questions.

It was not referred.

Moved by B. Lane, seconded by S. G. Stone, and

RESOLVED, That, in all cases, the ceremony of the laying of the corner stones of our churches be conducted by the proper officers of the Church, and according to the ritual provided in the discipline.

Adjourned. Benediction by E. I. Badgley.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd.

TWELFTH SITTING, 10 A.M.

Conference opened in the usual form. Religious services by W. Brown.

Roll called.

J. Mavety being absent, his place was filled by B. F. Austin.

Journals of previous sitting read and confirmed.

The Committee on Boundaries presented their report, which was laid on the table, under rule.

The Committee on Divine Service brought in a report, recommending an excursion to the Deaf and Dumb Institute to-morrow, at 2 p.m.

The report was read and adopted.

ORDERED, That when we adjourn to-morrow noon, we stand adjourned until 7 p.m.

Moved, in amendment, that when we adjourn to-morrow noon, we stand adjourned until Thursday morning, under rule.

Amendment adopted.

The Committee on Temperance presented their first report.

Moved to adopt.

The motion was lost.

The Committee on Law Questions presented their second report, which was read and, on motion, laid on the table.

A memorial from John O. Snider was read, and referred to the Committee on Memorials.

Moved, that that portion of the report of the Committee on Itinerancy relating to the appeal of J. D. Bell from the Bay Quinte Annual Conference be called up.

The motion was carried.

The portion alluded to was read.

Moved to refer it to the Committee on Law Questions.

Moved, in amendment, that it be referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

Moved, as a substitute, that the appellant, J. D. Bell, be heard before the Conference in this case.

The substitute was adopted.

Moved, that the appeal of Rev. J. D. Bell be entertained.

The motion prevailed.

Moved and seconded, that the decision of the chair in this case be sustained.

The motion was adopted.

Moved and seconded, that the portion of the report of the Committee on Itinerancy relating to appeals taken from the Journals of the Niagara Conference be now taken up.

Carried.

The first appeal of J. Gardiner, referring to a major vote in order to an election for any purpose, was called up for action.

Moved and seconded, that the appeal be sustained.

The motion was lost.

The second appeal of J. Gardiner, relating to the election of George Backhouse, was read.

Moved, that the reference rejecting the right to elect be confirmed.

The motion was lost.

W. Pirritte was granted leave of absence.

O. G. Collamore presented a paper to the Committee on Revision touching the claim of the wife of a superannuated preacher.

It was referred.

Also moved to refer a paper on the Journals of 1874, page 12.

It was referred to the Committee on Temporal Economy.

J. S. Williamson moved to refer a paper to the Committee on Law Questions.

It was referred.

S. L. Kerr, W. Service, and James Gardiner moved the reference of papers to the Committee on Revision.

They were referred.

A communication was read by the Bishop, and referred to the Committee on Temporal Economy.

Moved by F. Chisholm, seconded by George Abbs, and

RESOLVED, That the Revs. J. Gardiner, Dr. Pilcher, Dr. Jaques, and I. B. Aylsworth, LL.D., be appointed a Committee to prepare a Pastoral Address from this General Conference to our people.

Adjourned. Benediction by W. Benson.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd.

THIRTEENTH SITTING, 3 P.M.

Conference opened in due form. Religious services by J. Young.

Roll called. J. Mavety's place filled by J. P. Wilson.

Minutes read and approved.

ORDERED, That when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet to-morrow morning, at 9 a.m.

Revs. W. W. Williams and James Gray, Fraternal Delegates from the Methodist Church of Canada, were introduced to the Conference, and invited to a seat on the platform.

The Fraternal Address of the Methodist Church of Canada to the Methodist Episcopal Church of Canada was presented, and read by the Secretary.

The chair then introduced Revs. W. W. Williams and James Gray in turn, who addressed the Conference.

The following resolution was moved by Rev. W. Pirritte, seconded by B. Lane, and supported by Revs. J. Gardiner, W. Pirritte, Dr. Webster, W. Brown, J. Curts, and Dr. Jaques :

RESOLVED, That the Fraternal Delegation of the Methodist Church of Canada, consisting of the Rev. W. W. Williams and the Rev. James Gray, bearing the fraternal greetings of that body to this General Conference, has given us very great satisfaction. We rejoice in this the first interchange of brotherly and Christian greetings between the two oldest members of the Methodist families of Canada, as an evidence of increasing good will and fraternal regard for each other, and as opening the way for a more cordial and fraternal action, and for a deeper, broader, and purer feeling of Christian love and unity. We thank these dear brethren for their visit and for their words of brotherly love. We assure them of our fraternal regard for themselves, and our best wishes and warmest prayers for the peace and prosperity of the great Church they have so honorably represented.

ORDERED, That the address of the Fraternal Delegates of the Methodist Church of Canada be referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

T. Argue moved the reference of a paper to the Committee on Law Questions.

It was referred.

Adjourned. Benediction by James Gray.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th.

FOURTEENTH SITTING, 9 A.M.

Conference opened with singing, and prayer by J. N. Elliott.

Roll called.

J. P. Wilson filled the seat of J. Mavety, who was absent.

Minutes read and approved.

ORDERED, That it is the sense of the Conference that all standing committees continue in existence until the close of the session.

The Committee on Episcopacy presented their second report, which was read, and ordered to be considered, item by item.

First item read.

Moved, that it be adopted.

Moved, in amendment, that it be laid on the table.

Amendment lost.

Original motion prevailed.

Second item read and adopted.

Third item read and adopted.

Fourth item read and adopted.

Fifth item read and adopted.

Report adopted as a whole.

The Committee on Correspondence presented their first report. It was ordered that it be taken up, item by item.

First item read.

Moved to adopt.

Moved, in amendment, that we add "British Methodist Episcopal Church."

Amendment carried.

Moved further to amend by adding "the Methodist Episcopal Church South."

This motion was lost.

The item, as amended, was adopted.

Moved, that all the report be laid on the table, with the exception of the portion referring to the election of delegates to the Methodist Church of Canada.

Carried.

On motion, the election was proceeded with by nomination and ballot.

Revs. J. R. Jaques, D.D., Ph.D., W. Pirritte, W. Brown, B. Lane, E. I. Badgley, B.D., I. B. Aylsworth, LL.D., W. H. Graham, James Curts, George Abbs, Thomas Argue, and Joseph Young, were nominated.

All resigned, except the first three.

Moved, that the two having the highest number of votes, being a majority of the Conference, be elected.

Carried.

Revs. J. R. Jaques, D.D., Ph.D., and William Brown were declared duly elected.

Moved, that the portion of the report acted upon be adopted.

Carried.

The report of the Committee on the Pastoral Address was read and adopted.

ORDERED, That the President of Albert College and the Presiding Elders of the two contiguous districts be the Committee called for in said report, whose duty it shall be to prepare the Pastoral Address.

The report of the Committee on Evangelists, and their Relation to the Church, was read and laid on the table, under rule.

James Gardiner moved the reference of a paper on page 67 of Discipline to the Committee on Revision.

It was referred.

James Gardiner also moved to refer a matter on page 70 of Discipline to the Committee on Revision.

It was referred.

James Gardiner also moved a paper on the formation of districts to the Committee on Revision.

It was referred.

James Gardiner also moved to refer to the Committee on Revision, chapter 1, section 1, part IV. of Discipline.

It was referred.

O. G. Collamore moved the reference of a paper to the Committee on Revision touching Deacons' Orders.

It was referred.

F. Chisholm moved the reference of a paper to the Committee on Law Questions.

It was referred.

S. G. Stone moved to refer a paper relating to the Book Agency to the Committee on Revision.

It was referred.

I. B. Aylsworth moved to refer three papers to the Committee on Revision.

They were referred.

Adjourned. Benediction by J. H. Hilts.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th.

FIFTEENTH SITTING, 10 A.M.

Conference opened by singing, and prayer by E. A. Griffith.

Minutes read and confirmed.

The Committee on Memorials presented their first report, which was read and adopted.

The Committee on Temporal Economy presented their second report, which was read and laid on the table, under rule.

Report No. 3 on Temporal Economy was read and adopted.

The Committee on Correspondence presented their second report, which was read and adopted.

The report of the Committee on the Ecumenical Conference was read and adopted.

The Committee on Publishing Interests presented their second report, which was read, and, on motion, considered item by item.

First item read.
Moved to adopt.
Moved, in amendment, that it be recommitted, with instructions to the Committee to provide for its execution through the agency of the preachers.
Amendment carried.

Second item read.
Moved to adopt.
Carried.

Moved and seconded, that F. Chisholm and Joseph Young be added to the Committee on Correspondence.
Carried.

Third item of report read.

Moved that it be adopted.

Moved, in amendment, that we authorize the Agent to keep the new Hymnal in stock.

This amendment was pending at the time of adjournment.

Adjourned. Benediction by W. E. Norman.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th.

SIXTEENTH SITTING, 3 P.M.

Conference opened in due form. Religious services by G. S. White.

Minutes of previous session read and approved.

Item three of the report of the Committee on Publishing Interests, pending at the time of adjournment, was taken up.

On motion, the item and the remainder of the report were withdrawn.

It was moved and seconded, that

WHEREAS the ladies of this Church have invited the Conference to an entertainment in the basement, on Friday night; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we accept the invitation thus tendered, and that the Committee on Divine Service be instructed to arrange for such entertainment.

The Committee on Publishing Interests presented their third report, which was read, and ordered to be taken up item by item.

The items on Document No. 1 were read, and referred to the Committee on Revision.

Document No. 2. First item adopted.

Items second, third, and fourth lost.

Report adopted as amended.

Moved by G. Abbs, seconded by F. Chisholm, and

RESOLVED, That in the opinion of this Conference the Bishop should be earnestly solicited to publish a programme of Episcopal visitation for the whole work; that every portion, as far as possible, may share in his labors, and that those brethren who desire to secure his services on special occasions should make their arrangements so as not to conflict with such plan of appointments.

The Committee on Revision presented their fourth report, which was laid on the table, under rule.

The Committee on Law Questions presented their third report, which was read and adopted.

The report of the Committee on Sabbath School Union was read and referred to the Committee on Sabbath Schools.

The second report of the Committee on Education was read and laid on the table, under rule.

The first report of the Committee on Missionary Interests was read.

Moved, that we recommit the report, with a view to make it harmonize with the constitution of the Church, and with an eye to the strictest economy in the appointment of the Board.

Carried.

The first report of the Committee on Incorporations was read and adopted.

G. Abbs moved to refer a paper to the Committee on Revision relating to Trustees.

It was referred.

E. Lounsbury and F. Chisholm moved to refer papers to the Committee on Law Questions.

They were referred.

R. Sanderson, W. H. Graham, and J. R. Phillips moved the reference of papers to the Committee on Revision.

They were referred.

W. Benson and C. E. Benson moved the reference of papers to the Committee on Revision.

They were not referred.

I. B. Aylsworth moved to refer a paper relating to examinations to the Committee on Revision.

It was referred.

Bishop Carman read a paper relating to Alma College, which was referred to the Committee on Education.

Moved, that when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet at 7.30 p.m.

Carried.

Moved, that G. Miller be added to the Committee on Correspondence.

Carried.

ORDERED, That J. H. Hilts and J. Reynolds be added to the Committee on the Addresses to Earl Dufferin and the Marquis of Lorne.

Adjourned. Benediction by T. W. Pickett.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th.

SEVENTEENTH SITTING, 7.30 P.M.

Conference opened with singing, and prayer by James Curts.

Journals read and confirmed.

The first report of the Committee on Revision was taken up. Ordered that it be considered, item by item.

Items one and two adopted. Also the first part of third item.

The second part of the third item was, on motion, expunged.

Questions four and five of item four adopted.

Item five read.
Moved to adopt.
Moved, in amendment, to add "and Missionary Reports."
Amendment carried.
Moved, that the item follow the fourth paragraph, as found in the General Conference Journals of 1874, on page 16.
Carried.
Item adopted as amended.

Item six adopted.

Moved to adopt seventh item.
Moved to amend so as to read "as a Trustee of our Church property."
Amendment carried.
Item adopted as amended.

Item eight was read.
Moved to adopt.
Moved to amend by adding "and accepted by them."
Moved, in amendment to the amendment, that the item be recommitted with instructions to provide for the successors by the Quarterly Board.

Moved, as a substitute, that the report be laid on the table. Carried.

Item ten was read; and, on motion, lost.

Item eleven read, and adopted.

Item twelve read.

Moved to adopt.

Moved, in amendment, that the words "receive" and "suspend" be struck out, and the word "employ" be inserted in their place.

Moved, in amendment to the amendment, that the item be recommitted for further action.

The amendment to the amendment and the amendment were, on motion, lost.

The item was adopted.

Items thirteen and fourteen adopted.

Report adopted as amended.

A. D. Traveller, one of the members of the Committee on Episcopacy, brought in a minority report, signed by himself and W. Service, recommending the strengthening of the Episcopacy by one man.

Moved, that the report be laid on the table.

The motion was lost.

Moved that it be adopted.

Moved, in amendment, that we modify the work of the Presiding Elders so that they need not travel through the appointed Districts, but be stationed on a pastoral charge; and provide for the addition of two Bishops.

A Constitutional question was raised by W. Pirritte:

"Can this General Conference station Presiding Elders, without contravening the rule on page 57 of Discipline, which says: 'They shall not change or alter any part or rule of our government so as to do away with Episcopacy, or destroy the plan of our Itinerant General Superintendency'?"

The Bishop ruled that it cannot.

The Conference sustained the ruling of the chair.

The yeas and nays having been called for on the adoption of the report, they were on roll call taken, as follows:

YEAS.

W. Service,	I. B. Aylsworth,	J. R. Jaques,
F. B. Stratton,	W. Blair,	John Mavety,
A. D. Traveller,	W. G. Brown,	A. Martin,
J. Wood,	F. Chisholm,	T. W. Pickett,
	G. S. White.	

NAYS.

G. Abbs,	E. A. Griffith,	J. T. Davis,
T. Argue,	J. H. Hilts,	F. M. Finn,
J. H. Andrews,	G. Miller,	W. D. Hughson,
G. Bennett,	B. C. Moore,	S. L. Kerr,
W. Brown,	S. Morrison,	J. H. Kennedy,
E. Bristol,	J. R. Phillips,	B. Lane,
W. Benson,	R. C. Parsons,	E. Lounsbury,
C. E. Benson,	E. H. Pilcher,	W. Pirritte,
B. Bristol,	J. Reynolds,	C. A. Simpson,
C. Burdette,	J. M. Simpson,	R. Sanderson,
E. I. Badgley,	Thos. Webster,	W. H. Shaw,
J. Curts,	J. P. Wilson,	S. G. Stone,
A. Campbell,	G. Clark,	H. Williams,
W. H. Graham,	O. G. Collamore,	J. S. Williamson,
J. Gardiner,	S. Card,	J. Young,
	R. B. Denike.	

Moved, that we do now adjourn, to meet to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

Carried.

Benediction by C. Burdette.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th.

EIGHTEENTH SITTING, 9 A.M.

Conference opened with singing, and prayer by E. H. Pilcher.

On roll call, the seat of J. R. Jaques was filled by R. Large.

Journals read and confirmed.

The report of the Committee on Finance was read and recommitted, with instructions to charge the claims of F. Chisholm.

Moved and seconded, that the Presiding Elders be instructed to arrest the ministerial character of those delegates and reserves who have returned home without handing in their collections to the General Conference.

The motion was lost.

ORDERED, That, in the opinion of this General Conference, any delegate elected by any Annual Conference to the General Conference, finding it impossible or improbable that he will be able to attend the said General Conference, shall notify the Secretary of his Conference of said fact; in which case it will be the duty of said Secretary to notify the reserve delegate or delegates in the order of their election, that they are expected to be present at the session of such General Conference, to take the place of the person or persons thus giving notice of probable absence; and only in such cases shall the travelling expenses of reserve delegates be paid by the General Conference.

Moved, that any delegate or reserve retiring from this Conference without obtaining its consent, shall forfeit his claim.

The motion was lost.

The second report of the Committee on Memorials was presented.

Moved to adopt.

The motion was lost.

The fifth report of the Committee on Revision was presented, and laid on the table, under rule.

The report of the Committee on Temperance was read and adopted.

Adjourned. Benediction by W. Benson.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th.

NINETEENTH SITTING, 3 P.M.

Conference was opened in due form. Religious services by F. Chisholm.

Journals read and confirmed.

The third report of the Committee on Correspondence was read.

Moved, that it be adopted.

Moved to amend, by striking out the name of Delegate.

Amendment carried.

Ordered, that the report be adopted, as amended.

Carried.

The fourth report of the Committee on Correspondence was read and adopted.

The Committee on Publishing Interests presented their fourth report.

Moved, that it be adopted.

Moved that we suspend the motion, to take up the first report of said Committee.

Carried.

Ordered, that it be taken up item by item.

Item one, moved to adopt.

Moved, in amendment, that the clause, "To an eight page," be struck from the report.

Moved, in amendment to the amendment, that it be left in the hands of the Book Committee, with a recommendation to said Committee to enlarge as soon as circumstances will allow, and make such other improvements, as, in their judgment, they may deem expedient.

Amendment to the amendment carried.

The second item was read and adopted.

Report adopted as amended.

Report No. 4 was resumed.

Moved, in amendment, that to the words "one dollar and fifty cents" be added, "strictly in advance."

Amendment adopted.

Report adopted as amended.

The Committee on Law Questions presented their fourth report.

It was read and adopted.

Report No. 3 of the Committee on Education was read.

Ordered, that it be taken up item by item.

Items one, two, three, four and five were adopted.

Item six read, and, on motion, laid on the table.

Item seven adopted.

Item eight read.

Moved, that it be laid on the table, for the Committee to consider it as to its *personnel.*

Carried.

Items nine and ten adopted.

The report of the Committee of Methodist Union was read and adopted.

The report of the Committee on the State of the Church was read and adopted.

Thomas Argue moved the reference of certain matters connected with our Missions to the Committee on Revision.

ORDERED, That rule fifteen of Rules of Order be suspended, to admit of present action in the matters presented by T. Argue.

Paper F was read.
Item one adopted.
Items two and three were laid on the table.

The Committee on Correspondence presented their fifth report, which was adopted.

The second report of the Committee on Church Extension was read, and, on motion, laid on the table.

The report of the Committee on Sunday-Schools was read and adopted.

ORDERED, That when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet to-morrow morning at nine a.m.

S. G. Stone moved the reference of a paper to the Committee on Revision.
It was referred.

Thomas Webster, J. Laycock, E. Bristol, and J. H. Hilts were granted leave of absence.

ORDERED, That we proceed to elect an Agent and Editor by nomination and ballot.
S. G. Stone, D.D., was declared duly elected.

ORDERED, That we proceed, by nomination and ballot, to elect the Fraternal Delegates to the different Churches.
The following were duly elected:
To the Methodist Episcopal Church—Rev. B. Lane, M.A.
To the Primitive Methodist Church—Rev. E. H. Pilcher, D.D.
To the Bible Christian Church—Rev. W. D. Hughson.
To the British Methodist Episcopal Church—Rev. F. Chisholm.

S. Morrison was granted leave of absence.

Adjourned. Benediction by E. Bristol.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th.

TWENTIETH SITTING, 9 A.M.

Conference opened in the usual form. Religious services by J. T. Davis.

On roll call, J. C. Pomeroy took the place of J. H. Hilts, and C. S. Eastman, that of G. S. White.

The Committee on Obituaries presented their second report.

It was received, adopted, and ordered to be spread on the Journals:

Your Committee find that the late Rev. James Richardson, D.D., Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, was born in what is now the city of Kingston, Province of Ontario, on the 29th day of January, 1791. He joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in August, 1818. He commenced his labors as an itinerant in Yonge St. Circuit in 1824, and joined the Conference in 1825. He was ordained Deacon, September 2nd, 1827, and ordained Elder, August 22nd, 1830. He was ordained to the office of Bishop in the M. E. Church, on the 22nd of August, 1858. He died at his home in Toronto on the 9th of March, 1875, in the 85th year of his age, sustained and comforted by the power of the Gospel that for so many years he had preached. "Mark the perfect man and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace."

The Committee on Revision presented their final report, which was laid on the table, under rule.

The Committee on Camp-Meetings presented their first report. It was read and adopted.

Report No. 6 on Correspondence was read and adopted.

Items six and eight of Report No. 3 on Education, which had been laid on the table, were called up.

Moved to adopt item six.

Moved to amend, by displacing C. R. Mallory and appointing Nelson Dollar, Esq.

Amendment carried.

Moved, that we further amend by displacing Samuel Massey and appointing James Aylsworth, Esq., in his stead.

Carried.

Adopted as amended.

Item eight adopted.

Report No. 3 adopted as amended.

The fifteenth Rule of Order was suspended to take the report of the Committee on Revision.

F No. 1 was read.

Moved and seconded, that the second item in the constitution of the Parent Missionary Society, referring to the number in the *personnel* of the Board, be adopted.

Moved, in amendment, that the number be seven.

Moved, in amendment to the amendment, that it be nine.

Moved, as a substitute, that the number be thirteen.

The substitute was put and carried.

Ordered, that it be adopted as amended.

Article eight of the Constitution of the Parent Board in the Journals of 1874 was expunged, as per paper F No. 1.

Ordered, That the blanks in paper F No. 1 be now filled:

Rev. James Gardiner, Vice-President.

The Book Agent, Treasurer.

Thomas Argue, Secretary.

Revs. E. Lounsbury, W. Pirritte, A. D. Traveller, W. G. Brown, G. Abbs, J. Young; Messrs. Wm. Merrill, G. H. Kennedy, J. C. Huffman.

The report of the Committee on Finance, which was recommitted, was again taken up.

Moved to adopt.

Moved, in amendment, that R. B. Denike be appointed Treasurer, to receive all unpaid funds, and all funds in the hands of the delegates not paid over.

Amendment carried.

Ordered, that the report be adopted as a whole.
The motion was pending at time of adjournment.

Moved, that when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet at 2 p.m.

Adjourned. Benediction by I. B. Aylsworth.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th.

TWENTY-FIRST SITTING, 2 P.M.

Conference opened with singing, and prayer by G. Miller.

Roll called, and vacant seats filled. C. S. Eastman took the place of G. S. White, and J. D. Bell that of H. Williams.

Minutes read and confirmed.

The motion pending at time of adjournment was taken up.
It was adopted.

Moved, that the Treasurer of the Finance Committee, R. B. Denike, be instructed, after the payment of the expenses of the Fraternal Delegates to Montreal, to equalize the balance among claimants attending this Conference.

The report on Lay Delegation was called up and read.
Moved to adopt.
Moved to amend, by striking out the words, "full calendar."
Amendment prevailed.
Moved to amend, by stating, "Transmit under seal of his Presiding Elder a certified statement of the voting for or against," instead of, "A certified list of the names of the members."
Amendment carried.

The first report on Temporal Economy was called up.
Moved to adopt.

Moved, in amendment, that it be considered item by item.
Amendment carried.

First item adopted.

Second item lost.

Third item adopted.

Fourth item lost.

Fifth, sixth and seventh items lost.

Moved, that the report be adopted as amended.
Carried.

The second report on Temporal Economy was taken up item by item.

Item one read.
Moved to adopt.
Moved, in amendment, that the wife of a deceased superannuated preacher be allowed a percentage, according to the claim of her husband.
Amendment lost.
Original motion carried.

Item two, Letter A, adopted.

Item two, Letter B, moved to adopt.
Moved, in amendment, that it be changed so as to read, "A single claimant, two dollars; a double one, four dollars."
Moved, in amendment to the amendment, that each preacher pay two dollars, and each single claimant, one dollar.
Amendment to the amendment carried.

Item two, Letter E, adopted.

Item three, Letter D, adopted.

The report was adopted as amended.

On motion, it was
RESOLVED, That the next session of this General Conference be held in the M. E. Church, city of Hamilton, to commence the fourth Wednesday in August, 1882, at 10 o'clock a.m.

Report No. 1 on Missionary Interests was called up.

Moved to adopt.
Moved to amend, by striking out the fifth item.
Amendment carried.

Report adopted as amended.

The second report on Missionary Interests was taken up.

Moved, that it be adopted.
Moved, in amendment, that it be laid on the table.
Amendment carried.

The following were elected members of the Book Committee: G. R. Shepard, of Hamilton; James Harley, of Brantford; David Graham, of Claude; and George Awrey, of Binbrook.

J. S. Williamson was elected Corresponding Secretary of the Church Extension Society.

RESOLVED, That the Missionary Board be empowered to fill vacancies at its regular annual meeting.

RESOLVED, That we elect a committee of three to edit a new edition of the Discipline.

Moved and seconded, that the Committee consist of E. H. Pilcher, D.D., the Secretary, F. B. Stratton, and the Editor, S. G. Stone, D.D.
Carried.

Moved and seconded, that the Committee appointed to edit a new edition of the Discipline be instructed to publish seven hundred and fifty copies of the proceedings of this General Conference.
Carried.

The report of the Committee on the Centenary of Canadian Methodism was called up.

F No. 2. Moved to adopt.
Moved, as a substitute,

1st.—That we celebrate the semi-centenary of Canadian Methodism this year.

2nd.—That the proceeds arising therefrom in the Bay Quinte Annual Conference be applied to the Kingston Church.

3rd.—That A. D. Traveller be appointed agent, to travel at large through said Conference to solicit funds.

4th.—That all the charges be requested to give all the aid in their power to raise funds for this purpose.

Substitute carried.

Moved, that the Presiding Elders of the different Annual Conferences be a Committee to draft a programme, and effect arrangements to celebrate the semi-centenary of Canadian Methodism: J. Gardiner, to be chairman of the Committee for the Niagara Conference; W. Pirritte, the Ontario; and A. D. Traveller, for the Bay of Quinte.

Carried.

Resolved, That a general Sabbath School Parliament for the whole Church be held on the St. Lawrence Central Camp-Ground, A.D., 1879; and that C. G. Scott, of Strathroy; Seymour Bell, of Picton; and J. R. Jaques, D.D., of Belleville, be a Committee to make all necessary preparation for said Parliament, and fix the time for its being held. Dr. Jaques to be the convener.

On motion, rule fifteen was suspended to receive and act upon a paper touching provision for a General Conference Secretary and his duties, which was presented by Dr. Badgley.

On motion, it was adopted.

Report No. 2 on Education was taken up and adopted.

Moved, that Bishop Carman, Dr. Jaques, B. Lane, M.A., and the Secretary, be a Committee to represent the General Conference in Addresses to Earl Dufferin and the Marquis of Lorne.

Carried.

Report No. 6 of the Committee on Revision read and adopted.

Moved and seconded, that the session be lengthened.
Carried.

The report of the Committee on Evangelists and their Relation to the Church was read and adopted.

Acting under the suspension of rule fifteen, it was

ORDERED, That the second Answer, on page 15 of the Journals of the General Conference, be retained in the Discipline.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Revision was called up, and considered item by item.

Item one lost.

Item two adopted.

Item three lost.

Item four adopted.

Item five adopted.

Item six adopted.

Report adopted as amended.

Report No. 4 of the Committee on Revision was read, amended, and adopted.

Report No. 3 of the Committee on Revision was read, and taken up item by item.

First item carried.

ORDERED, That the Editing Committee be empowered to arrange the wording of the Discipline so as to harmonize therewith.

Second item read, and, on motion, was laid on the table.

Report adopted as amended.

Report No. 5 of the Committee on Revision was called up, and, on motion, was adopted, with a provision.

Moved, that the matter of procuring short forms of deeds be referred to the Committee on Incorporation.
Carried.

Report No. 2. of the Committee on Law Questions was read and adopted.

The report of the Committee on Boundaries was read, and, on motion, was laid on the table.

The report of the Committee on Itinerancy was called up.

Moved and seconded, that all the report, except that relating to appeals, be adopted, and put on file.

Carried.

Moved, that Rev. Dr. Pilcher be associated with the Delegate of this General Conference to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Carried.

Moved by I. B. Aylsworth, LL D., seconded by Dr. Stone, and

RESOLVED, 1. That the thanks of this General Conference are due and are hereby tendered to Rev. F. B. Stratton for his very arduous labors and efficient services as Secretary of this Conference.

2. That the thanks of this General Conference are due and are hereby tendered to Rev. Bidwell Lane, M.A., for his kind attention and care in providing us such comfortable homes during the session of this Conference.

Moved by Dr. Stone, seconded by George Abbs, and

RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this General Conference that the usual notice of Quarterly Meetings should not have more than three insertions in the *Advocate.*

Moved by Dr. Aylsworth, seconded by W. H. Graham, and

RESOLVED, That we express our entire satisfaction with the prompt and efficient manner in which Bishop Carman, D.D., has presided over this session of the General Conference.

Moved by Dr. Pilcher, seconded by F. B. Stratton, and

RESOLVED, That the Editing Committee be and are hereby authorized to make any grammatical changes in the new Discipline that may be required for accuracy.

RESOLVED, That we, as members of this General Conference, hereby desire to tender our heartfelt gratitude to the members of his congregation, and our friends in the city of Belleville, for their kindness and hospitality during our stay amongst them; and further, to express our thanks to those who provided such a treat as was offered us in the excursion on the Bay of Quinte, as also the grand tea in the basement last evening, and that this resolution be read from this pulpit to-morrow morning.

Moved by I. B. Aylsworth, M.A., LL.D., seconded by S. G. Stone, and

RESOLVED, That this Conference tender its thanks to Rev. E. H. Pilcher, D.D., for his diligent and valuable services at this General Conference; and that because of his matured judgment, long experience, and eminent abilities, we esteem him as a valuable acquisition to our Church.

RESOLVED, That the Bishop, the preacher in charge where the next General Conference shall be held, and two Presiding Elders whom the Bishop may select, shall be a Committee to provide speakers for public meetings on Education, Mission Work, Church Extension, Temperance, and as far as practicable, for Divine Service at its next session; said speakers to be notified of the same at least three months prior to its being convened.

RESOLVED, That the thanks of this Conference are due, and are hereby tendered to the various Railway Companies for their favors to us, in granting reduced rates to the Delegates and visitors of this body over their respective roads; and that the Secretary forward a copy of the same to the proper representatives of these roads.

The journals of this sitting were read and confirmed.

After singing, prayer was offered and the benediction pronounced by the Bishop, when the Conference adjourned.

F. B. STRATTON,
Secretary of Gen. Conf.

NOTE.—As the Bishop presided over all the sittings of the Conference, his name is not repeated in the daily reports.

THE BISHOP'S ADDRESS.

To the Delegates of the Annual Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, in General Conference assembled:

BRETHREN BELOVED: But for perturbations and irregularities, this were the thirteenth regular General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada. However, as—according to the notions of some very nice people, calm and regular as the chiselled marble, and often about as dead—Methodism, at its start in England, was an irregularity, and at the beginning of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America perpetrated some monstrous irregularities; and as it gets credit, and sometimes likes to give itself credit for such a spirit in its operations, such a genius in its institutions as seizes the irregularities with power, and with wisdom adapts them to its work, we need not be surprised if this is not the thirteenth Regular General Conference of our Church, as in due course and under ordinance, and, I had almost said, under compact it ought to be. Nor need we be disconcerted if, in any degree, the chronological line of the quadrennial succession is dim or tangled in the chaos of disruptions and organizations. Nevertheless of this we may rest assured—the legislative and administrative functions of an ecclesiastical vitality are readily traceable in the effectual uniting of sundered members; and the evidences of a continuous and vigorous life are marked in the healing of grievous wounds and in the growth and increasing strength of the body.

In 1824, what was called the Canada Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized: another shoot of the vine planted by John Wesley and his people in North America; that vine whose outreaching arms and spreading branches are fast offering the fruit of the glorious Gospel to all nations. Up to this date, the Methodism of this country, in its administration as well as in its legislation, was under the direction of the parent body in the United States—a relation both seemly in its filial attachments and effective in its parental supervision and support, since, from

the very nature of the Church of Christ, ecclesiastical operations and evangelical efforts, when moved aright, are not to be hemmed in by national lines. Of this relationship, such facts as the visit of Bishop Asbury in 1811, and the sessions of the Genesee Conference at Elizabethtown—now Lyn—in 1817, and at Lundy's Lane in 1820, under the presidency of Bishop George, are pleasant reminiscences. This was, in a sense, the territorial or provincial epoch of Canadian Methodism. Its government was then forming, and, as years rolled on, verging to an autonomy. The formation of the Canada Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as was duly done by the General Conference of that body at Baltimore, in 1824, gave Canadian Methodism its administration at home, while its constitution and legislation were still in the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. At the first annual session of the Canada Conference at Hallowell—now Picton—in August, 1824, Bishops George and Hedding presided, as Bishop Andrews does to-day in the New York East or the West Wisconsin Conference, or Bishop Haven in the Alabama, Germany, or India Conference: at once a realization and demonstration of the unity of the Methodist Episcopal Church in all the nationalities of the globe. Bishop Hedding likewise presided over the Canada Conference in its session in 1825, at Saltfleet, and in 1827, at Hamilton, at the former of which James Richardson and Egerton Ryerson were admitted on trial, and at the latter they were both ordained Deacons. In the session of the Canada Conference of 1826, Bishop George presided. Thus was Canadian Methodism part and parcel of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

At the Pittsburg General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1828, in which body the Canada Conference was duly represented by its delegates, on the memorial of the Canada Conference of 1824 and subsequent sessions, the Methodists of Canada were authorized in explicit terms to organize themselves into a "distinct Methodist Episcopal *Church*"—not into the *Canada Conference*, which they already were, and which is sometimes put forward as an interchangeable term, but into a *Methodist Episcopal Church*, with the constitution and discipline of such a Church. In the resolutions of allowance by the General Conference, brought about as cited above, it was called, declared to be, and provided for as a "distinct *Methodist Episcopal Church*;" and in the articles of acceptance and ratification by the Canada Conference of 1828, it was resolved to organize itself into an "*Independent Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada*," and to adopt the discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church as the basis of the constitution and discipline of this newly-organized Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, which said discipline had its limitations and restrictions of the powers of the General Conference much the same as ours are to-day. By this action the legislative

functions for Canadian Methodism came across the national boundaries in 1828, as the administration had in 1824, and took up their residence in the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada. In the arrangements then made and in the regularly enacted Discipline of 1829, it was ordained that "the first General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada shall be held the last Wednesday in August, in 1830, in Belleville, and henceforward, once in four years, at such times and in such places as shall be fixed on by the General Conference." Had that rule been carried out, and the Discipline of 1829, framed under the compact of 1828, duly observed, it is easily seen this had been the thirteenth Regular Session of our General Conference. But, from 1830 to 1833, sessions of the General Conference were sometimes held in connection with the Annual Conferences, and their limits were not always well defined.

After the events of 1833, our General Conference—the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada—"Such as it was," say gainsayers and critics; "Such as it was," reply we, who cry out with thanksgiving, "Behold what God hath wrought"—held a session at Trafalgar—now Palermo—in June, 1835, at which John Reynolds was elected and ordained *Bishop*—the first General Superintendent or Bishop consecrated under the compact of 1828. Yes, "such as it was." Nevertheless, it was the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada; necessitated and entitled to exercise the functions of such a Conference—that is, *if there ever was* a Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, or *if there is one to-day.* A special General Conference was called at Yonge Street, in June, 1837. A regular session was held in Sophiasburg, in September, 1839; and another in Sidney, in 1843. At this last, the work was divided into two Annual Conferences—the Niagara, and the Bay of Quinte. At a special General Conference in Hope, in October, 1845, John Alley was elected Bishop—but never presided, except at the Conference that elected and ordained him. This year also the *C. C. Advocate* was originated by Messrs. Webster and Leonard, and adopted by the General Conference of 1847. At this session, held at Brighton, Philander Smith was elected and consecrated Bishop. The next General Conference was held at Brooklyn, in June, 1850; and that following at Belleville, in June, 1854. A special session was held at Brooklyn, in July, 1856; and the regular session at St. Davids, in August, 1858. At this session James Richardson was elected and consecrated Bishop. Then followed a special session at Belleville, in June, 1859; and regular sessions at Cobourg, in 1862; Orono, in 1866; Ingersoll, in 1870; and Napanee, in 1874.

Reckoning from 1828, we are likely in our twenty-first General Conference, of which several have been special sessions,

and of which some at the beginning, as already intimated, were held in connection with the Annual Conferences. Nor need we wonder at this indefiniteness, since Methodism, as to its polity and organization, is a matter of growth, and at the beginnings of its Church life tried measures and methods, and adopted those that stood the tests. In the United States it is a question that has been warmly debated, and perhaps never decided, whether the General Conference of 1792 is the second or third General Conference of its history. In some circumstances this is, perhaps, a question of no great importance.

Bishop Reynolds was associated with all the Conferences from the time of his election in 1835 till 1856; Bishop Smith with those from 1847 till 1866; and Bishop Richardson from 1858 till 1874. These venerated men—Reynolds, Alley, Smith, and Richardson—have all departed from the scene of their earthly labors, and entered into rest. Still our God is pleased graciously to continue His work among us, and grant us some success; and through His great mercy, we are now assembled in the General Conference of 1878. Surely we have to-day but one mind, and one heart, and one purpose toward our Gracious Father in Heaven, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Together we devoutly join to adore Him in His infinite perfections, and in the glory and majesty of His government. Together we praise Him for His *goodness*, for His *wonderful works* to the children of men, for His *protection* of His people, and *especially* for His *loving care* and *beneficent providences* concerning our beloved Zion in the years that are gone. We laud and magnify His holy name, and rejoice in Him, our God and Saviour. Together we confess the sins of the past; and wonder how through all our wanderings, and follies, and failures, He hath led us on to a good degree of felicity and prosperity. We wonder and adore. We bewail our transgressions before Him and implore His forgiveness. We humble ourselves, and bow down before the Lord our Maker. "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy great name give praise and glory forever." We rest in the assurance of His forgiveness, and in the pledges and witness of our acceptance with Him. Together conscious of our weakness and of our entire dependence upon Him, encouraged by His fatherly dealings and gracious promises we yet look up with confidence; we go forth trusting in Him and in Him alone; and we believe He still will lead us in a good way and grant us prosperity. Our united prayer is now unto the God of light and life, that He will direct and strengthen us in this General Conference. Without Him we utterly fail. As the Holy Ghost descended upon the councils and assemblies of the primitive Christian Church, so now may He descend upon this Conference in power; and abide with us; and deliver, help and lead us! And may no word, or will, or work of ours offend the

ever blessed spirit of the eternal God, or cause Him in any respect or in any degree to depart from us and so leave us to ourselves. If at any time in the history of our Church there has been occasion for united prayer to God for help and guidance it is to-day. O Lord, help, we beseech Thee! And if at any time under God there has been occasion for high expectations and glorious hopes it is to-day. The name of the Lord be praised! And so we review the past with adoration, gratitude, and humility; and, through God, we look forth into the future, inspired with confidence and hope.

The work of any General Conference is one of great responsibility, importance and difficulty; and it is as well a work of great excellency, great valor, authority and dignity. In our economy the General Conference has become distinctly the legislative body. It has also reserved to itself certain administrative and executive powers pertaining to the whole connexion, as the sanction and establishment of connexional institutions, and the election, and, where necessary, the consecration of officiary. Originally measures were proposed, and were carried about to the Annual, which were District Conferences. Approved, they became law; modified, they must go the rounds till approved. Such tardiness and inconvenience could not long satisfy the spirit or meet the wants of Methodism. The Christmas Conference of 1784—the first General Conference of Episcopal Methodism—was called to consider and accept the ordinations and recommendations of Mr. Wesley; that of 1792 was called to meet the demands of connexional legislation. And such connexional demands are yet upon us. Episcopal Methodism gives us solidly a connexional Church, with immeasurable capabilities of activity, change, multiplication, and increase in its societies. It enjoys a firm bond of union in its General Conference and its Episcopacy—the agency, and, in many respects, the representative of the General Conference. For our system is not hierarchical. The Episcopacy is not above the General Conference, but is of the General Conference; constituted by it, and authorized to do a part of its work. Thus bound together as a connexional Church, there are common and connexional interests that must be guarded and secured. These interests the General Conference *alone* can adequately protect and foster. There are institutions to be planted and maintained; there are missions to be established and cultivated; there are subordinate ecclesiastical associations and agencies to be started and directed; upon which the entire wisdom, power, and wealth of the Church must be turned. The General Conference *alone* can exercise the required authority, impose adequate obligations, and make the necessary provisions in such cases. The General Conference alone can bring the entire strength of the Church to act on one or more specified objects. In the movements of the Church, such concentration of force, such direc-

tion of energy is often indispensable. And where the societies, the members, and adherents of the Church, are pious, intelligent and loyal; where they have a just appreciation of the work and its varied enterprises; when they are devoted to the cause of God, and the ecclesiastical polity under which they live; such concentration of force and such direction of energy are always readily possible; and by the good favor of our God, gloriously successful. This creation and guardianship of connexional institutions and agencies are now upon us. We must meet the responsibilities and exigencies of the case in the spirit of men, and in the fear and love of God. Again, it is for the General Conference to fix the rules of administration, and to appoint the administrators. The sufficiency of these rules, and the official conduct of those that have applied them, must pass in review before this court. Bishop, Editor, Book Agent, Missionary Secretary, with other connexional officers; and the Annual Conferences, Book Committee, and College, Church Extension, and Missionary Boards must here render their account. It is the bounden duty of this General Conference to know how each officer or official body has used the power entrusted to him or to it, as the case may be. Further, the administration of some of the lower courts or officers of the ecclesiastical judiciary may be called in question. A member of the Church, or a member of the Annual Conference, may send up his appeal against an action that he alleges deprives him of his rights or does him an injustice, and this General Conference may be called to determine in the case. If any rights of men are sacred, it is their rights in the Church of Christ; and this supreme court of our Church must judge patiently, fearlessly, and impartially. How varied and far-reaching then the powers and functions of a General Conference! How weighty and solemn such duties! But we have not yet mentioned that business of the General Conference that is ordinarily conceived to be the most important. We refer to its legislative power. This body enacts our law, regulates our economy, prescribes our mode of operations, establishes our courts, councils, and subordinate Conferences, and defines their powers. We must maintain the supremacy of *law*. We must hold the authority of the General Conference and its enactments to be paramount. The wise and the dutiful invariably submit to the law and its administration, even though the former be defective and the latter be faulty, until they have exhausted the constitutional means of supply and remedy. In all civil and political relations, the most prominent characteristic of all civilized nations is their appeal to, their regard for, *law*. There is no other safety in the state. The law must first be enacted by the constitutional power and process; and then, in all cases of disadvantage, harm, loss, or injury, the procedure for redress and punishment must be taken according to law. The law is enacted in calmness according to the

best human wisdom and prudence, and then the accused is tried under the rules of the court, and condemned or acquitted according to the law of the land. The parliament must legislate and the court administer; every council and every tribunal under its proper authority and in its own sphere. Then loyal, intelligent, and dutiful citizens submit themselves to the law of the land and the decrees of the courts; and if amendments or changes are desirable they seek them by a constitutional procedure. There are higher courts to reverse the decisions of the lower courts, if necessary; but, until reversed, those decisions of the lower courts are the law of the land, and must be respected and obeyed. Any other course of conduct or principle of action leads us into absolutism and the Star Chamber, on the one hand; or plunges us into anarcy, mob-law, and lynch executions, on the other. In enlightened and well-regulated communities, the authority of law is always and everywhere held supreme. He who would call a convention to do the work of the constitutional parliament revolts against all reasonable authority, and is a rebel in the State. He who would summon a crowd to perform the solemn functions of a court has little respect for law, and renders impartial justice impracticable. Surely it must be a desperate state of affairs to justify either such a convention or such a mob! In our civil concerns we all admit the correctness and safety of these positions. If the allegations be true for the State, that confirms her verdicts by the sword, how much more applicable to the Church, that is commanded to put up her sword into the sheath, and allowed to bring only the sanctions of religion and reason to bear on the consciences of men! The Church of God, in its visible and earthly relations and administrations, is emphatically the *realm of law.* Here, more than in any other association of earth, reason, conscience, authority, order, law, must prevail. This is the special excellency of the Church—to demonstrate the moral omnipotence of conscience, divine authority, and law in a lawless world; a world of rebellious anarchy and haughty and sinful disregard of authority. This is the central light and power of its evangelism, to bring all into conformity with the law of Christ; this is its most heavily burdened and oft-repeated petition poured into the ears of the Lord of Hosts: "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. . . . . For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory for ever." Authority *must* be respected; law *must* be maintained. Whence it devolves most solemnly and weightily on this and every General Conference prayerfully and carefully to enact law that will command respect; to correct any and every administration that justly provokes disloyalty, disregard, or revolt; and by wise legislation to lend every possible encouragement to the dutiful souls that stand by the authority of the Church, and through evil report, as well as through good report cling to the constitution and the law,

This tremendous responsibility is upon us to-day. Can we perform a duty of this kind cursorily, hastily and perfunctorily? Can we discharge these obligations without prayer to God and mature deliberation? without trust in the divine Saviour and obedience to the word of God and the directions of the Holy Ghost? Without doubt we now all unite in the prayer that our divine Lord may be present with us, and abide; and that the Holy Ghost may enlighten our minds, purify our hearts, and guide us according to the Saviour's blessed promise into all truth.

After these reflections of a more general character, I may now be allowed to speak somewhat in detail of the business of this Conference.

It will be remembered that the last General Conference, in session at Napanee, passed an ordinance on Lay Delegation, enacting lay representation in the General Conference, and providing definitely for their election through the new District Conference, an agency that, in its new constitution and powers, had not yet been secured. It was deemed necessary by the Executive of the Church, under the provisions of the Discipline, to submit the proposed constitution of the District Conference to the Quarterly Conferences, for their approval or disallowance. The Quarterly Conferences disallowed especially the lay or electoral element of the District Conferences, whence the Executive decided that, as the specific and designated provision for the election of laymen to this General Conference had entirely failed, it was impracticable under the Constitution there should be such election.* Wherefore, much satisfaction as it would have yielded us to admit the representatives of our trusty and well-beloved brethren of the laity into this assembly; and much wisdom, strength, and comfort as their presence and co-operation in our councils and acts would have contributed, we do not see any legal provision whereby they can become a constituent element or factors in this General Conference. And, of course, as we have already said, we all pay respect to law and constituted authority, and abide their operation. This is at once our safety and our honor.

The question of Lay Representation in the General Conference will naturally come again before this body. It is likely possible so to frame a measure as not to interfere with the veto power now resident in the Quarterly Conferences, which I am convinced the laity will never surrender; likewise so as not to clash with the supervision of temporal affairs on the Districts or with the nature of courts and character of trials prescribed in the Discipline: or, at least, to adjust the one in each case to the other; also to provide that the lay representation be what it professes to be,

* The deliverance of the Chair upon this subject can, if desired, be laid before the General Conference.

pure and simple—that is, that provision be made that laymen elect laymen. Such a measure, if heartily accepted and vigorously, piously, and loyally worked by our laymen, would, I have always thought, bring new and needed elements of power into our beloved Zion, and bear us onward with greater energy to greater success. I confess, however, to some surprise that, after all the agitation upon this question (in which agitation, as a member of the Church and of the Annual Conferences, I have always borne a humble part in favor of the measure), the laymen themselves have not spoken out more decidedly upon the matter; and if they desired such representation in the *General Conference*—which likely is as far as they or we would think for the present of going—they had not some way officially, as by the Quarterly Conferences, or personal memorial, or otherwise than by the expression of a few present by chance at the last General Conference, made that desire known. I am not aware that there is a single memorial on the subject to be brought before this body. It would seem that the desire is mainly with us of the ministry. This may be commendable on our part, for various reasons; but the question now is, What is best and safest to be done? The laity, so far as I learn by intercourse with them, by a large majority, say: "We are satisfied with things as they are: we are not oppressed or anxious: the veto power is all we desire: it secures us all we want." And very many say: "We cannot work Lay Representation; it is too cumbersome and expensive." But the ministers say: "Brethren, we want your advice in our councils, and your help" (they mean co-operation and money) "in our work. We want to carry on the Lord's work with more united strength and energy." Hence, it seems to me, under all the circumstances, it might be wise to frame a measure as above suggested, and make it law and operative on this contingency alone—that is, if the brethren in two-thirds or three-quarters of the Quarterly Conferences will accept such representation and meet its demands. If so, such representation could take effect in the next General Conference. Perhaps, however, the law and its opportunities would elicit the desired activity.

It will also be remembered that the Napanee General Conference of 1874 ordained a Missionary Society for the Church, constituted a Missionary Board, and appointed a Missionary Secretary. The work of the Society, the proceedings of the Board, and the operations of the Secretary will no doubt duly appear before the Conference in the proper reports. The whole field will unquestionably be carefully canvassed, and such measures taken as shall secure the efficiency and promote the interests of our Missionary work. This must be done. The demand is imperative. Care must be taken and wise direction given. But that of which we would speak now more particularly is that the Missionary So-

ciety, as contemplated by the General Conference, became an incorporation by Act of the Ontario Parliament, and under the title of "The Ontario Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada;" which was thought by the law officers of the Crown to be as far as the Ontario Parliament could go. It may be for this Conference to inquire whether enlarged powers are not necessary. Subsequent to the incorporation of the Society, the Missionary Board, under powers given by the Act, and with a view to economy, passed a resolution which led to the retirement of the Missionary Secretary. Again, it may be for this Conference to ascertain the nature of this action of the Board, and to make known how its views are met by an incorporation of its own supplementing its legislation and procuring the abolition of an office of its own creation, and the retirement of an officer of its own election.

Again, the General Conference of 1874, for the management of our connexional journal and Book Room, appointed both an Editor and a Book Agent. When the Book Agent had entered upon his duties, he found financial responsibilities of a character that he was personally unwilling to assume. Hence an attempt was made to incorporate the establishment under the General Act of Ontario for such purposes. This attempt failed, and the Book Agent retired. Wherefore the Book Committee appointed the Editor also Agent, and authorized the employment of such assistance as seemed necessary. It is believed that, by the arrangement, expense was saved to the Concern; and it is trusted that neither the character of the paper nor the business of the establishment suffered detriment or loss in consequence. As to the former, the Conference and the public must judge; as to the latter, the reports of the Agent and the Book Committee must bear their own testimony. And so we have the strange experience that one officer of the last General Conference retired because of an incorporation, and another because there was no incorporation. It is evident that this subject of incorporation will require careful examination, and that the acts secured and to be secured will demand close scrutiny.

Another point that may justly demand the attention of this Conference is the relation of an *Evangelist*, as the preacher specially promoting revivals on different charges is called. The administration has admitted in the Bay Quinte Annual Conference that a man may be called of God to preach, have his examinations in due course in the Conference, be accountable to the Conference for his character, doctrine, and preaching, and still by vote of the Conference be allowed to labor on different circuits at the call of the preachers, and under their direction and that of the Presiding Elders during the same year, ever and specially laboring for the promotion of revivals. The General Conference will likely canvass the whole subject.

Subsequent to the last General Conference, a movement was set on foot to establish a Ladies' College, under the care of our Church, at St. Thomas, Ontario. The project was heartily encouraged by the citizens of that town, especially by certain liberal and public-spirited gentlemen of influence and wealth, and on its submission to the Annual Conferences was cheerfully sanctioned by them, and is under their fostering care to this day. An Act of Incorporation, under the title of Alma College, was obtained from the Parliament of Ontario—a copy of which is hereby submitted, along with the Act incorporating the Missionary Society—a Board organized, plan of building adopted, site chosen, subscription opened and prosecuted, and now the building, a magnificent structure, is in course of erection, and is under contract to be ready for use in August, 1879. The report of the Alma College Board will, we trust, put the Conference in full possession of all the required information upon this business. And it is earnestly desired by the Board and the promoters of the enterprise that this General Conference shall look carefully into it, give such directions as it may deem proper, and take such steps as in its wisdom shall appear necessary fully to identify the Alma College with the educational enterprises of the Church and insure its success for the benefit of our country, and as a valuable auxiliary in the work of the Gospel to the glory of God. Reports will also be in hand from the Board and officers of our prized and cherished educational establishment of years of standing and successful labor in this department of our work—from Albert University, Albert College, and the Alexandra College: such reports as shall show that our God has blessed these agencies with a great success. For this we render glory to His holy name, and trust that such liberal measures shall be devised and executed, especially in this centenary year of Canadian Methodism, as shall secure to these and to our entire educational work large resources of power and the means of higher and grander success. And again we will ascribe to God all the glory!

Probably most appropriately in this connection we may make mention of the fact that, so far as records or tradition can guide us, the first Methodist Society in Canada was formed in Augusta, in the year 1778, by Episcopal Methodist people—the Emburys, Hicks, *et al*, from New York. Also of that other important historical fact, that in 1828, as already affirmed, the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada was duly organized by authority from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. So, whether we regard this year 1878 as a centenary or a jubilee, it is well worth our celebrating in a spirit of gratitude and thank-offering to God, the God of our fathers, for all His mercies to us, not only great, but numberless. It is meet and right that this General Conference should take the initiative, and that the entire Church should be moved to liberality to our institutions, and thank-offerings to God by our

precept and example here. This matter will no doubt be taken early into the consideration of the Conference, and prompt action and liberal enterprise secured.

Further, in this centenary year it is at once appropriate and inspiring that a call should come to us from the parent body, under the authority of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to take our part in a representative assembly of all the Methodisms of the globe, to share in the labors and the honors of an Œcumenical Council of our common and world-wide Methodism. It is my duty, and at the same time a real pleasure, to lay before this body a copy of a circular letter signed by Bishops Simpson and Ames, and other members of the Committee on an Œcumenical Council of Methodism appointed by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at its last session in Baltimore, in 1876, and duly addressed to this General Conference and our Church in Canada. This important subject will receive your respectful attention, and such direction as your wisdom and love for the common Methodism may indicate. Your own Committee on Methodist Union, appointed at Napanee in 1874, will likewise report during this session of the Conference that it may be ascertained what progress, if any, has been made toward an organic union of the Methodisms of this country. There seems to be a difficulty in bringing together, in one body, the Episcopal and non-Episcopal Churches, which possibly might be overcome by a better understanding of, and a greater familiarity with, our Episcopacy, on the one hand, and a more intimate acquaintance with the excellencies of the non-Episcopal Churches, on the other. Possibly we ought to know one another better than we do, and love and aid one another more than we do; and therefore should take steps to improve our acquaintance and increase our mutual regard. But while we do not secure a Methodist union, we must take the utmost care to cherish a Christian unity; that we dwell together with the brethren with all that preach the gospel in sincerity, in the fellowship of the spirit and in the bonds of peace. And this subject shall have our devout attention, and our prayers that the glorious gospel of Christ be mightily furthered in its progress in the land and in the earth. Possibly one of the aims of the Œcumenical Council of Methodism may be to bring about this mutual understanding of these Churches, agreeing in doctrine but differing in polity, to secure the mutual co-operation of all, and the organic union of those that may flow naturally together.

To turn from these subjects, which, with kindred themes, may be said to constitute our ecclesiastical polities, to matters more within ourselves, and more closely related to our internal strength, to what may be said to constitute our ecclesiastical physiology and hygiene, we perhaps had better mention first our Sabbath-School cause, the training of the children for God. At a glance, the

immense importance of this subject is seen. What we want is greater energy and uniformity in our operations, and greater accuracy in our annual Sabbath-School returns. We all know how unsatisfactory are the Sabbath-School reports from the Circuits to the Annual Conferences. We all know there are many of our societies that should have vigorous Sabbath-Schools that are without them. True, much of this is chargeable upon the administrator and the people. But then, perhaps a voice from this General Conference may stir them up to duty and help them in the discharge of their duty. If this will not, what in the Church militant will? And the admitted inaccuracies in this department might remind us that our whole subject of statistics should pass under review, both as to uniformity and accuracy. Akin to our Sabbath-School work, and the retaining the interest of the youth in the Church and in Church worship, is the subject of our hymnology, a subject that is now engaging more or less the attention of all the Churches. It must devolve on this General Conference to decide whether we retain our present hymn book or adopt another, inasmuch as the M. E. Church is changing its hymnal, and hence is pressing the book we now have out of use and out of print. And since our singing is so large a part of our worship, and it is indispensable we maintain uniformity therein in our congregations and societies, the occasion is again upon us when we shall consider how best to preserve the spirit of genuine worship in our songs, and thereby to honor the God we praise, to chasten the devotion and heighten the spiritual fervor of our people.

The last of these internal enterprises to which your attention is directed in this address is the Church Extension Society, organized by the General Conference of 1874. The report of its Board will show that while something has been done, much more might have been done; and the Lord helping us, in the future much more must be done. While such demands are upon us for Churches, especially in our cities and towns, no effort must be spared to increase the income of this society. This Conference may well consider whether the machinery of the society might not be simplified, and whether it would not excite to increased effort to allow each Annual Conference to apply the funds raised within its own bounds. In general, the simpler our machinery, with effectiveness preserved, the better off we are, and the less force expended on the machinery itself.

At the last General Conference a committee was charged with the revision of the course of study prescribed for candidates for orders in our ministry, under the examination of the Annual Conferences. A report from such committee is herewith submitted, recommending several changes in the present curriculum; recommending, also, that in the case of college graduates where omissions have been allowed substitution should be made. What-

ever curriculum be adopted, and whatever mode and government of the examinations be prescribed, this thing we must ensure in our watchcare of the ministry of the Church—that there be a thoroughness of knowledge and an adequate literary qualification for the holy calling of the man of God. If God calls a man to the ministry of His Church, let us be well assured He calls him to prepare and furnish himself for that ministry. We must have a course of study suited to the times; and then we must see that our candidates do their work of preparation thoroughly. While on the one hand we insist upon the indispensableness of the divine call and qualification, on the other we must insist upon our young men and all candidates obtaining proper knowledge and qualification to use. Hereby we must guard the doors of our Conference, and elevate the character of our ministry. To this end it is recommended that there be an examination at the time of admission on trial. It should also claim the attention of the Conference whether a year at school is to count for a year in the Diaconate, or a year in the progress to Presbyterial ordination. It is also worthy of a thought, what relation the candidate permitted to attend school sustains to the work, and whether it might not be advisable to place him under some authority and direction.

Those who were present during the last sittings of the Napanee General Conference in 1874 will remember with what sympathy and anxiety they looked upon the venerable Bishop presiding; and how settled in their minds and melancholy was the assurance that in that relation and work they should see his face no more. His nerve was firm, his strength unabated till he had completed the service of consecration. Then he sank into his chair, and many said they saw it written in his countenance and expressed in his posture of resignation and rest, "My work is done." And well nigh done among us was the work of that noble man, whom God had matured with sufferings and labors, and honored with lengthened years. After the Conference, during the winter months, he rallied somewhat, but having undertaken a severe journey in the early spring his strength was broken, and after a very brief illness he expired at his home in Toronto, in the bosom of his family, the 9th of March, 1875, in the 85th year of his age, the 51st year of his ministry, and the 17th year of his Episcopate. James Richardson was a man of God, a pattern in his generation, honored in his country, beloved and revered in his Church; and this Conference will know how to respect his memory, to recognize his priceless worth, and pay due honor to him departed for his holy example and irreproachable life. His name shall abide a fragrance in the Churches like ointment poured forth.

We have duties to the living as well as to the dead, to our civil rulers as well as to our ecclesiastical superiors in office. On the expiry of the term of office of Earl Dufferin, as Governor-

General of the Dominion of Canada, who has proved himself to be one of the most talented, highly respected and successful Governors of our history, the Marquis of Lorne, an accomplished and popular nobleman, with his consort of royal lineage, will come forth, commissioned under the hand and seal of our noble Queen Victoria to rule in this Dominion in her room and stead. The Methodist Episcopal Church everywhere cleaves to the Gospel and strives to maintain order in the State. The M. E. Church in Canada has ever been loyal to the British throne. We believe and preach, "Honor all men: love the brotherhood: fear God: honor the king;" and we think it would not be amiss for the General Conference, speaking as for the M. E. Church in Canada, to greet the noble Marquis on his arrival, or very soon after, with a loyal and patriotic address.

The administration of this writer for the past four years must pass in review before this Conference. Deponent hath nought to say. Conscious of weakness and unworthiness, he hath in some sense done what he could. The record is in the churches and with a forgiving Father in heaven. This Conference will do its duty in the premises, and without fear, favor, or affection will guard the Church of God. O solemn trust! to guard the Church of God! Who can betray such a trust and live? The first year of the four was passed to a large extent in Albert College; the remaining three years have been mainly devoted to labors at large throughout the Churches. We can only give glory to God for what success has attended so inefficient labor. If any success, to God be all the glory. The account of monies received can be furnished at any time as a supplementary statement to this paper. There are now in hand two promissory notes—one of $200 and one of $50—representing legacies left to our funds, the property of this General Conference, and to be disposed of by it. The order in the case will be awaited with all respect.

And now what remaineth but for me to invoke upon us all the Divine blessing? Surely our work is of vast responsibility and importance, as well as of great authority and dignity. Had we only the ordinary Church legislation in hand, the interests were immense. The enactment and promulgation of righteous laws are great educators, both in the State and in the Church of God. So it is: the moral code, next to the Son of God, is the greatest instructor of all the centuries. The law was our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ. It is ours to make and confirm law. The Lord God help us do it with an eye single to His glory.

But we have not simply to lay down equitable formulas or mark out plain and safe paths. If we do our duty we are to found institutions and make them throb with life; we are to do superhuman work with very feeble human resources. If the Lord our God help us not, we certainly fail. But help is certain if we call upon

God and obey Him. "No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly." "Call upon me in the day of trouble and I will deliver you, saith the Lord;" "For I, the Lord thy God, will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not, for I will help thee. Fear not thou worm Jacob and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the Lord, and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel." Let us then draw nigh to God our Father with confidence, through Jesus Christ our Saviour, and He will send forth upon us the Holy Spirit of enlightenment and truth. In all our legislation and decisions, in all our plans and enterprises, in all our elections and appointments we must keep before our eyes the fear and the love of God and the salvation of men. Not less in our legislation, our projects, and elections are we to seek the glory of God and the salvation of the souls of men than in preaching the Gospel to the congregations of the people. All self-will and self-seeking must be put away from us, with all pride and malice, if we would have the meek, self-denying and lowly Jesus abide with us, and guide and bless us. I enjoin it upon you, brethren; it must in the name of our Christ and for His glory be done. We must sink into His will and wait on Him in prayer and faith, to know His pleasure concerning us, and then we must accept and do it. We must feel of the dews of the darkness of Sinai and Calvary, and be revived of the light that breaks on Tabor and Olivet and Zion. We must suffer with Christ, if with Him we would reign.

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DELIVERANCES FROM BISHOP CARMAN.

No. 1.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, Belleville, 1878.

The Address of the Chair at the opening of the session made allusion to Alma College, an educational enterprise of the Church, initiated during the past four years. It was then expected that before this advanced period of the sittings of the Conference there would have been at hand, for the use and direction of the Conference, a report of the Board of Alma College, forwarded either by the Board or its Executive Committee, as was duly decided upon. In default of such report, which it is hoped may yet appear, the Chair deems it best to submit this paper to the Conference, lest the Conference and its Committee on Education may be put to disadvantage for the lack of information, to the detriment of Alma College.

In the fall of 1875 the enterprise was projected. The project met at once the hearty concurrence of some of the leading citizens of St. Thomas, the seat of the College, who proposed a bonus, on the part of the town, of $5,000. The bonus scheme was subsequently changed into a plan of voluntary subscription, which was believed to secure greater favor in the town and interpose fewer obstacles in the way of the College enterprise.

In the spring of 1876 the Niagara Annual Conference endorsed the scheme, appointed a Provisional Board, and invited the co-operation and assistance of the other Conferences. This co-operation was distinctly pledged by the Ontario Conference of 1876, and by both the Ontario Conference and the Bay of Quinte Conference of 1877. In that year also a charter was obtained for the Institution from the Ontario Legislature. All the Annual Conferences of 1878 reaffirmed their devotion to the scheme—an educational scheme to which the Church is fairly committed.

At the proper time a competition was opened for plans of building, the plan settled upon, the contract given out, and now

the magnificent structure is in course of erection. The contract price is $25,064. With land, fencing, ornamenting, heating and lighting fixtures, furniture, etc., it will cost not over $40,000. Bishop Haven said of the design: "I do not know a finer structure of the kind on the continent," expressed his surprise that such a building could be reared at so low a cost, and forwarded the draft to the patrons of the College the M. E. Church is about to erect on the four hundred acres they have secured at Atlanta, Georgia. Hon. Adam Crooks, on foundation day, in his address at St. Thomas, said: "I have not seen in this country, I have not seen anywhere else a design in better harmony with the objects of the Institution, the corner-stone of which I am now about to lay, or one more expressive in its every feature of the noble work to which it is to be dedicated."

Alma College is chartered by an Act of the Legislature of Ontario passed in 1877, a copy of which has already been submitted to the Conference. This Act places the College under the direction and control of this body. It is, as to proprietorship and management, as distinctly the property of the M. E. Church in Canada as is our beloved Albert College; and it is now desired that the Conference recognize its relations to the College, assume its responsibilities, arrange for its completion and management with all economy and efficiency, and by official sanction and adoption make the enterprise our own and commend it to our people. Agents are in the field; over $20,000 has been secured in subscriptions; and as the building proceeds public confidence and interest are increased. Such financial arrangements have been made as enable the Board to erect the buildings; but there must be vigor and dispatch in our agency and liberality in our people to save us from ultimate embarrassment. Our experience as to Albert College should show us that we must be *united* and *earnest*; that our measures must be liberally planned and promptly executed, if we would save ourselves from heavy burdens of interest such as we have borne, and from grievous entanglements and long years of struggle such as we have passed through. The promoters of the enterprise are confident it originated and grew to its present proportions under the favoring providence of God; and in Him they trust to see it a speedy and complete success.

A. CARMAN,
Bishop.

No. 2.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, in General Conference assembled, Belleville, 1878.

The Chair would respectfully inform the General Conference, in order that proper arrangements may be made concerning Alma College, in case that enterprise is sanctioned and adopted by the General Conference:

That for the peace of our beloved Zion, when agents for Alma College were sent forth to canvass for subscriptions in the interests of that enterprise, it was thought best by your administrator to agree with the agent of Albert College Endowment Fund, that the Alma College agents should canvass only those fields that had already been canvassed in the interests of Albert College. The Chair is of the opinion that the whole subject now reverts to the General Conference; and that Alma College having been adopted as an enterprise of the entire Church, as it is hoped, and certainly and universally expected it will be, it will then devolve on this General Conference to consider and establish the financial relations of the educational institutions of the Church, and both sacredly to guard the interests we have been so long cherishing, and to foster any more recently unfolded interests that may have come into our care. When these matters shall have been duly considered, and the relations properly adjusted, there shall be no need whatever of collision or friction in our educational movements. The cause is one; the Church is one; and every true friend of the Church and cause will do his utmost to promote the educational advantages of ladies as well as of gentlemen, and to sustain the institutions that may happen to be located in Western Ontario as well as that which has its seat in the East. To the careful attention of the Conference and its Committee this subject is prayerfully commended.

A. CARMAN,
Bishop.

CONFERENCE ROOM,
Aug. 29, 1878.

No. 3.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, in Conference assembled, Belleville, 1878.

The General Conference in session at Napanee, in 1874, ordered that the Committee to prepare papers for the examination of students in the ministry may revise the Course of Study. The said Committee, had the proposed Constitution of the District Conferences been adopted, was to consist of the Bishops and two Elders called to their aid. In the failure of that provision, the Bishop surviving has thought fit to call in aid and prepare a revised draft of the Course of Study, which is herewith presented to the General Conference for its consideration and action.

It is recommended,

I. That candidates for *admission on trial into the Annual Conferences* be required to pass examination in the following subjects: Common branches of an English education; Outlines of Ancient and Modern History (Collier); Bible History.

II. That the following texts and work be prescribed as the Course of Study:

First Year.—English Grammar; Composition and Rhetoric (Bain); Sacred Geography and Antiquities (Barrows); Watson's Institutes, Part I.; Wesley's Plain Account of Christian Perfection; Kidder's Christian Pastorate; The Bible—Doctrines; Binney's Theological Compend; Discipline.

Second Year.—History of Methodism (Stevens); Watson's Institutes, Part II., Chaps. i.–xviii.; Wesley's Sermons, i.–xxv.; Kidder's Homiletics; Logic (McCosh); The Bible—Sacraments, with Luckey and Hibbard, Part I.; Essay.

Third Year.—History of the M. E. Church in Canada (Webster); Watson's Institutes, Part II., Chap. xviii. to the end; Stewart's Active and Moral Powers; Fletcher's Checks, I.–V.; Kurt's Church History to the Reformation; King's Primitive Church; Sketch.

Fourth Year.—Kurt's Church History from the Reformation; Handbook of Moral Philosophy (Calderwood); Angus' Bible Handbook; Smith's Old Testament History; Bledsoe's Theodicy; Hurst's History of Rationalism.

III. That the following texts and work be prescribed in case of exemptions in the Regular Course to graduates in Arts:

First Year.—History of Christian Doctrine (Shedd).

Second Year.—History of the Christian Councils (Hefele); Introduction to the Study of the Gospels (Westcott).

Third Year.—The Inspiration of Scripture (Lee); The Canon of the New Testament (Westcott).

Fourth Year.—History of Free Thought (Farrar); Miracles (Mozley); Exegesis of Romans—Greek text, with Whedon.

IV. That by legislation the Annual Conference Committees on Examination be directed as to the modes of examination, the time to be given to examination, the standards to be reached, and other points that will secure uniformity of results, relieve the Committees of a responsibility sometimes not promptly assumed, and generally contribute to the thoroughness of the examinations and exalt the standard of scholarship among the candidates.

V. That by explicit declaration and legislation the mind of the General Conference on the usage of allowing school years, pu and simple, to be credited on Conference probation, be made known.

All of which, it is desired, should be referred to the Committee on Education or other canvassing body, that the whole subject may come properly in review before the Conference.

With respect, etc.,

A. CARMAN,
Bishop.

BELLEVILLE, Aug. 29, 1878.

PART II.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ADDRESS TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable Earl Dufferin, K.C.B., etc., Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, etc., etc., etc.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, in regular quadrennial session assembled, at Belleville, September 5th, 1878, hereby resolved to offer to your Excellency, on the eve of your departure from our Dominion, the renewed assurances of the unabated loyalty of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada to the throne and government of her Majesty our noble Queen Victoria; of its undiminished respect for her person and character, ever rejoicing that the virtues of her life outshine the jewels of her crown; and of the unceasing and fervent prayers of our ministers and people to Almighty God for the prosperity and peace of her realm, and for her own safety and happiness.

The General Conference desires further to attest to your Excellency its admiration and cordial approbation of the administrative and representative conduct and career of your Excellency in this Dominion. In our view, if we may be allowed to utter an opinion, you have truly exalted the Government and rendered it honorable. Following in the footsteps of those constitutional governors and illustrious representatives of her Majesty that have

been beloved and honored among this people, your Excellency has surpassed them all in a just discrimination of the invaluable principles of responsible government, and a faithful adhesion to them, despite at times somewhat untoward circumstances. The dignity of State and the authority of Government you have nobly maintained. Moreover, your Excellency has endeared yourself to every household in the land by your frequent condescensions to all ranks of the people and your happy associations with them. Not the least valuable of your services to our Dominion we hold to be the generous visits of yourself and Lady Dufferin to all parts of the country, and the exalted social intercourse accorded to our inhabitants. As a body of Christian ministers and representatives of a branch of the Church of God we are deeply grateful to you for the encouragement lent by your high example and powerful presence and influence to education and religion, and for your plain and persuasive utterances in favor of virtue, intelligence and uprightness for all the people. We must say, without at all abating the gladness and joy with which we shall greet and honor your noble successor in your high office, that we feel a sincere sorrow that the time has come for you to leave our shores. Your voice of eloquence has been an inspiration in the land. By generous thought and glowing speech you have strengthened the bonds that bind us to the mother land, as well as the cords that unite us in our precious citizenship at home. Our youth have looked up to you with patriotic pride, and Canadians by your noble words have been led to think more of Canada. In our homes, and by our tables and our hearths, we shall long think and speak of Dufferin. We shall point our children to him and to his noble wife, who has also endeared herself to all the people, with a great and perpetual satisfaction, and bid them emulate so illustrious examples. And now, as is fitting, we affectionately say, Good-by! Commending you to the Father of all human flesh with prayer that your career may be increasingly honorable and successful, and that you may be the means of abundant blessing to others as you have been, in the good providence of our God, unto us.

With sincerest respect to yourself and Lady Dufferin, your most devoted servants, for the honor of the Empire and for the glory of God.

Signed on behalf of the General Conference,

F. B. STRATTON,
Sec'y of the Meth. Epis. Church of Canada.

A. CARMAN,
Bishop.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN :

Your Committee on Correspondence beg leave to submit the following :

1. That delegates bearing the Christian and fraternal greetings of this Conference be sent to the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Canada Methodist Church, the Primitive Methodist Church, the Bible Christian Church, and the British Methodist Episcopal Church.

2. That this Conference proceed at once to the election of two Fraternal Delegates to the Canada Methodist Church and one Fraternal Delegate to each of the other aforesaid Churches.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. JAQUES,
Chairman.

E. I. BADGLEY,
Secretary.

COMMITTEE ROOMS,
Sept. 3, 1878.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN :

With pleasure unfeigned we have heard of your prosperity through your esteemed representative, the Rev. Jacob Todd, D.D. His visit to us, and the address he was commissioned to bear, assure us of your interest in our prosperity and of the unity of our common Methodism. The Rev. Bishop Haven also kindly visited us, and gave us brotherly counsel and words of cheer.

Our work is enlarging and opening up in all directions, and we are endeavoring to go up and possess the land. Our membership is gradually increasing, and we are pushing our missionary work with energy and success. We have associated the work of education with the ministrations of the pulpit and evangelistic labor, that the cultivated mind and the sanctified heart may all be consecrated to God.

Our representative, the Rev. Bidwell Lane, M.A., a brother beloved, will convey to you our Christian greetings, and inform you more fully of our position and prospects. "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen."

F. B. STRATTON,
Sec. of Gen. Conf., M. E. Church in Canada.

A. CARMAN,
Bishop.

To the Methodist Church of Canada, in General Conference assembled.

DEAR BRETHREN:

"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

With the close of another quadrennial period, we greet you again in the bonds of Christian brotherhood. We take great pleasure in acknowledging your Christian courtesy in sending to our late General Conference an address so cordial and a deputation of brethren so distinguished and so eminently fitted to represent your great and growing Church. With equal pleasure we bear testimony to the able and felicitous manner in which they performed their duties as fraternal messengers of the Church. Be assured, dear brethren, that nothing was wanting to render the occasion most pleasing, profitable, and memorable.

We cordially reciprocate the wish and prayer expressed in your address—that we may be more and more closely united in the bonds of Christian fraternity, convinced as we are that fraternization, while not resulting in ecclesiastical union, must at least precede it. While the two fraternizing Churches are fully satisfied with their respective polities, we must leave the solution of the problem of "organic union" to the future developments of the Divine providence, which is favoring both Churches with such wonderful "showers of blessing." In harmony with these views, we are looking with prayerful interest to the contemplated "Ecumenical Council of Methodism," the possibility of which is a gratifying evidence of the growing spirit of fraternization among the Churches.

We rejoice in your great success in carrying on the work of Methodism, and especially your eminent success in the great work of Missions, in which your example is an inspiration to us and to all Christendom. We are sure that we all bid you God-speed in this work so dear to Christ and all Christians.

With thanksgiving and humility we rejoice to be able to say that the quadrennium just closed has been one of prosperity unpre-

cedented in our history as a Church, in the conversion of souls, the building of churches, and the enlargement of all our resources. To God be all the glory!

Our Fraternal Delegates, Rev. J. R. Jaques, D.D., Ph.D., and Rev. Wm. Brown, brethren beloved among us, will explain more fully our prosperity and prospects, and bear to you our cordial Christian salutations.

And now, dear brethren, where shall we look for more bountiful fields than those which invite our united labors and which are already white for the harvest? In the broad fields of our fair Dominion of Canada, sheltered by the majesty of the British Empire, we, as Methodists, in the words of England's great captain, may fittingly "thank God for this great opportunity to do our duty," and to contribute our part toward making our country in the future as it has been in the past—the land of the Sabbath and the land of the Bible.

In the unity of our common Methodist doctrines of *free, full, and present salvation*, and in the unity of our common experience of Christian love, we, with you, go forth to our common work of saving souls from death, praying that the God of peace may make you and us "perfect in every good work to do His will—working in us that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen."

Signed by order and in behalf of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, Belleville, Ontario, this —— day of September, 1878.

A. CARMAN,
President.

F. B. STRATTON,
Secretary.

To the President and Members of the Primitive Methodist Conference in Canada, in Conference assembled.

DEAR BRETHREN:

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada sends you affectionate greeting in the Lord. We salute you as brethren in Christ Jesus, united with us to the same divine Head by the same vital bond of an evangelical faith; taught by the same inspiring Spirit; cultivating the same precious fruits of righteousness; and consecrated to the same sublime end, the glory of our adorable Lord. But while we thus greet you with the same loving salutation which we are prepared to extend to the whole Christian brotherhood, we are, at the same time, drawn towards you by a closer tie of fraternity as legitimate members of the great Methodist household. We rejoice to share with you the honorable distinction of descent from the same illustrious ancestry, and we are happy to divide with you the honors, while we cheerfully accept

together the labors and responsibilities of the distinguishing mission of Methodism, of spreading "Scriptural holiness over these lands," and of pressing in vital existence an earnest, aggressive and spiritual type of our common Christianity.

With deep humility and devout gratitude we witness the good hand of our God upon us, in the increasing numbers and improving efficiency of our institutions and agencies of usefulness. Our educational, publishing and missionary institutions are very fast rising from the struggles of tentative existence into the regions of assured fact and financial security. The liberality of our people is receiving emphatic expression in the rapid multiplication of beautiful Church edifices all over the land; and the blessed Spirit is signally accrediting the word of His servants in the conversion of souls, a steadily increasing membership and the growing spirituality of our people. But while giving undivided praise to God for the lot and place He has assigned us in this land, we have not been disinterested witnesses of the zeal, courage and success with which you have toiled in the same blessed work. We have observed with admiration the courage with which you have contended for your denominational autonomy amongst the Methodisms of Canada, and the conscientious devotion with which you have cherished your distinctive features of ecclesiastical order. We have noted with equal pride and gratitude the growing intelligence and power of your ministry, and the fidelity with which your people sustain and second its labors.

While it would be a great joy to us to be permitted to celebrate with you the consummation of the organic unification of the Methodisms of this country upon mutually honorable and satisfactory conditions, we shall meantime, and until the providence of God shall lead us into this happy realization, accord to you an affectionate recognition in the Lord, and zealously challenge you to a rivalry of charity and good will; to an emulation of the apostolic spirit of our illustrious founder, and a joint vindication of the inspiring tradition of our common Methodism. We hereby accredit to you our beloved brother in the gospel of our Lord, Elijah H. Pilcher, D.D., who will further inform you of our state and assure you of our fraternal attachment. And it will afford us much pleasure at our next General Conference to welcome from your body a similar messenger. With assurances of our profound regard and affection, and with devout prayers that the enriching gifts of the Holy Spirit may descend in largest measures upon you, we remain your brethren in the joy and fellowship of the glorious gospel.

Signed on behalf of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada.

F. B. STRATTON,
Secretary.

A. CARMAN,
President.

To the President and Members of the Bible Christian Conference in Canada.

DEAR BRETHREN:

At the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, assembled in the city of Belleville in August and September, 1878, it was deemed very desirable that the different branches of the Methodist family enter into more intimate fraternal interchange of thought and feeling. And although you do not bear the family name, yet your oneness with us in distinctive doctrines and usages manifest your family relationship, and we look upon you as one of our own household.

Regarding you in this light we have made free to send you this fraternal greeting in the name of our common Master and our common cause. Enlisted as we are under the same banner and contending against the same foe, it well becomes us to bid you God-speed in your work, and we do earnestly pray that you may be very successful in defeating the powers of darkness and winning many glorious victories under the great Captain of our salvation.

We send to bear our fraternal greetings to you the Rev. W. D. Hughson, a brother beloved and esteemed among us, whom we trust you will receive in our name, and who will make known to you more fully our state and our earnest desire for your continued prosperity.

A. CARMAN,
President.

F. B. STRATTON,
Secretary.

To the General Conference of the British Methodist Episcopal Church of Canada.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

In this age more than in any other, in which the Saviour's prayer for the oneness of his followers is being fulfilled, we desire to send you this our fraternal greeting, in order that the unity the Saviour desired may be more effectually brought about. We rejoice in the unity of our race. As we believe, so we teach that "God hath made of one blood all nations of men, for to dwell on all the face of the earth." We hail you as brethren in our Lord Jesus Christ, possessing equal rights and privileges, rejoicing with us in a system of civil government that proclaims liberty throughout all the land to the inhabitants thereof. We realize fully the grand ideas of "liberty, equality and fraternity."

We rejoice with you in the unity of Methodism. We hold in common with you the essential doctrines of salvation, as taught by the venerable founder of Methodism, John Wesley. The spirit of free thought is abroad in the land, infidelity and scepticism have suggested doubts upon all subjects, human or divine; sacred history has been challenged, and the doctrines and miracles of the Bible assailed; the so-called scientists of the age have endeavored to construct a universe without a God. Yet we praise God that in the meantime "truth as it is in Jesus" pursues its onward course, enlightening the ignorant, comforting the afflicted, and illuminating the grave with the light of immortality; truth offers to all enlightenment, salvation, and spirituality. In this great work we trust Methodism is performing her part.

We praise the Lord for the prosperity granted you in the past. God has wonderfully blessed our efforts. May He so favor both you and us in the future, that our work may not be in vain in the Lord.

We are pleased to know, dear brethren, that you hold to the Episcopal form of Church government, as recommended by Wesley. It works well with us. We see no need for any modification of our polity.

We commend to you F. Chisholm, a brother beloved, who will the more fully convey to you our fraternal greeting. "Praying that the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

Signed, by order and on behalf of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada.

F. B. STRATTON,
Secretary.

A. CARMAN,
President.

Done at Belleville, Sept. 6, 1878.

REPORT OF THE BOOK COMMITTEE.

To the General Conference, 1878.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

The members of the Book Committee were called together immediately after the General Conference of 1874, by Bishop Richardson.

The object of that meeting was to examine the condition of the Book Room and Printing Office, so as to ascertain its exact amount of stock and liabilities when it came into the care of the newly appointed agent.

Experienced mechanics were employed to assist in placing a correct value upon the type and material then in the printing office.

Most of the fonts of type in the job department were found to be worn and out of style.

The stock in the Book Room was valued at its cost price. A discount for wear and use has been annually placed upon the material in the printing office, and a few hundred dollars' worth has been added in new material.

The old hand power has been superseded by a new steam engine.

The following exhibit will show the amount of stock from year to year:

March 1, 1875.	Stock in the Book Room	$1316 77
	Stock in the Printing Office	2441 69
March 1, 1876.	Stock in the Book Room	$1678 48
	Stock in the Printing Office	2478 91
March 1, 1877.	Stock in the Book Room	$3171 38
	Stock in the Printing Office	2278 14
March 1, 1878.	Stock in the Book Room	$3790 38
	Stock in the Printing Office	2458 52

In the report of the Committee on the Printing and Book Room Establishment of the last General Conference is found the following instruction: (*See p. 28 of Journal.*)

"We recommend the enlargement of the *C. C. Advocate*, and the printing of less advertisements, as far as possible."

The latter part of this recommendation has been so far met that no person finds fault because of too many advertisements in

our Church paper. But, with regard to enlargement, nothing has been done, for the following reasons:

1. In the first place, the resignation of the Book Agent necessitated the imposition of the double duties of Book Agent and Editor upon one man.

2. In the second place, the enlargement of the paper will involve a considerable outlay, and an increase in the price of the paper.

3. Also the stringency of the times, which set in subsequently, admonished economy.

4. And finally, the Editor and Agent, Dr. Stone, has devoted considerable attention to the development of the Book Room Department.

The Book Committee have, however, recommended to the favorable consideration of this General Conference the project of enlarging, improving and changing the form of the *C. C. Advocate.*

The office has been removed to a more central business place, and this change has resulted in a very considerable increase in the local trade.

In consequence of the resignation of the Book Agent, the Editor and Agent has been allowed to use a sum not exceeding $200 a year, to procure editorial assistance, only part of which has been used any one year.

The Book Committee have also been warranted in appropriating some of the proceeds of the Concern to the benefit of the old and worn out preachers, as required by the Discipline.

The Book Committee ordered also that, in view of the large arrearages, the Agent be instructed plainly and repeatedly to inform preachers and people, through the *Advocate*, that on and after January 1, 1879, all papers not paid for in advance shall be stopped.

It was also ordered that, for collecting all arrearages one year old, or more, ten per cent. be allowed, and twenty per cent. for collecting all that is due on the circuit or charge.

The Editor was authorized to limit the length of obituaries and compress to a very short space the notices of donations and gatherings of merely local interest.

The Agent was also instructed to provide check books, so as to enable the preachers to give receipts to subscribers on payment of subscriptions.

The Book Committee also very respectfully memorialize the General Conference concerning the advisability of publishing a small and large hymnal for our own use in this country.

The Book Committee were very much gratified to be able, from time to time, to commend the ability and efficiency of our Agent and Editor, Dr. Stone, for his very successful management of the Book Concern and *Canada Christian Advocate.*

As an item of information to the General Conference, it may be stated that the withdrawal of E. S. Whipple from our Church caused a vacancy which is now filled by G. R. Shepard, Esq., of Hamilton.

At the first meeting of the Book Committee there were found certain unadjusted claims, which were satisfactorily settled.

A. CARMAN,
President.

I. B. AYLSWORTH,
Secretary.

BELLEVILLE, August 30, 1878.

PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

CONDENSED REPORT, EMBRACING ALL THE ITEMS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the subject of the Book Room and Printing Interests, would present the following.

Item I.—That the enlargement of the *C. C. Advocate* be left in the hands of the Book Committee, with a recommendation to enlarge as soon as circumstances will allow, and make such other improvements as in their judgement they may deem expedient.

Item II.—That the entire Concern, printing and book business, be continued as at present, under the control and management of one person as Book Agent and Editor, and that he be permitted to employ such help as may, in his judgment, be needful, under the supervision of the Book Committee.

Item III.—That the Agent's salary be *one thousand dollars* per annum.

Item IV.—That the advance pay system, as arranged by the Book Committee to take effect January, 1879, be strictly adhered to.

Item V.—That we adopt the new Methodist Episcopal Hymnal, and bring it into use as rapidly as circumstances will allow; and the Agent is hereby instructed to have our imprint placed upon it, if he deem it advisable.

Item VI.—That the price of the *C. C. Advocate* be one dollar and fifty cents per annum, strictly in advance.

Item VII.—Having carefully considered the report of the Book Committee, we have much pleasure in recording our appreciation of the general prosperity of the Publishing Interests of the Church, under the very efficient management and indefatigable labors of the Editor and Agent, Rev. S. G. Stone, D.D.

In this connection we regret that we are not able to give a statement of the amount of business done, and the very considerable profits which have accrued to the Concern during the quadrennial—the report having been removed from our table. But this much we may say, that notwithstanding the financial depression that has spread over the land, the Book Concern has steadily advanced; this advance is the more noticeable since the removal of the business from its old location to the new and eligible situation by which the local trade has largely increased.

W. H. SHAW,
JNO. N. ELLIOTT.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ECUMENICAL CONFERENCE.

Your Committee, to whom was referred this subject, beg leave to report as follows:

Whereas, the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in session in the city of Baltimore, May 31st, 1876, initiated a scheme for an Ecumenical Conference of Methodism, and appointed a Committee to mature and carry out the same; and

Whereas, the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada has been requested to take part in the said Conference,

Resolved, 1.—That the General Conference heartily concur in the scheme set forth by the Committee acting for and in behalf of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having reference to the said Ecumenical Conference.

2.—That the Rev. Bishop Carman, D.D.; Rev. B. Lane, M.A.; Rev. J. R. Jaques, D.D., Ph.D.; Rev. I. B. Aylsworth, LL.D.; and Rev. E. I. Badgley, B.D., LL.D., be appointed a

Committee of Correspondence, to act for and in behalf of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada in connection with the said Ecumenical Conference.

3.—Should the Corresponding Committee deem it necessary to call to their aid additional counsel, the following brethren shall be associated with them, viz:—Rev. J. Gardiner, Rev. E. Lounsbury, Rev. E. H. Pilcher, D.D., Rev. W. Pirritte, Rev. G. Abbs, Rev. F. M. Finn, Rev. W. Brown, Rev. S. G. Stone, D.D., and Rev. J. D. Bell, and the Committee thus constituted shall be empowered to act for and in behalf of this General Conference in any matter committing the Church to any definite action until the next session of this General Conference.

4.—Should necessity arise for the action of either of the Committees mentioned, the Bishop shall be empowered to convene the members thereof at such time and place as he may deem proper.

5.—The expenses of members of the said Committees shall be paid by the Annual Conferences to which they respectively belong.

Respectfully submitted,

F. M. FINN,
Chairman.

E. I. BADGLEY,
Secretary.

WHEELING, W. Va., May 28th, 1878.

REV. A. CARMAN, D.D.,
Bishop of the M. E. Church.

MY DEAR BROTHER: I herewith enclose you an address, which will explain itself, to be submitted to your approaching General Conference. The Protestant Methodist General Convention and the General Conference of the M. E. Church South have heartily concurred in the suggestion for an Ecumenical Council of Methodism. I trust it may meet the approval of yourself and of your Church, and that the great event may be realized. Please acknowledge the receipt of this, and please also have your Secretary send me a certified copy of your action.

Very truly yours,

A. C. GEORGE.

ECUMENICAL METHODIST CONFERENCE.

PHILADELPHIA, May, 1878.

To the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, in session in the city of Baltimore, adopted May 31, 1876, the following preamble and resolutions:

"WHEREAS, There are a number of distinct bodies of Methodists in the United States, in the Dominion of Canada, in Great Britain, and in other countries; and

"WHEREAS, These different Methodist organizations accept the Arminian theology, and maintain usages which distinguish them to some extent from every other denomination of Christians; and

"WHEREAS, There are in these Methodist churches nearly thirty thousand itinerant ministers, twice that number of local preachers, and more than four millions of lay members; and

"WHEREAS, These several Methodist bodies have many interests in common, and are engaged in a common work, and are seeking a common object; and

"WHEREAS, An Ecumenical Conference of Methodism would tend in many ways to a closer alliance, a warmer fraternity and a fuller co-operation among these various Methodist organizations for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom in all parts of the earth; and

"WHEREAS, It is eminently proper that this General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church—a Conference and a Church representing and including eleven thousand itinerant ministers, and sixteen thousand members—should initiate and propose such a measure; therefore,

"*Resolved*, 1. That the Bishops be requested to appoint a Committee of Correspondence, consisting of nine persons—two of their own number, four other ministers, and three laymen—who shall take this whole subject into consideration, correspond with different Methodist bodies in this country and in every other country, and endeavor to arrange for the said Ecumenical Conference of Methodism, at such time and place as may be judged most advisable, to consider topics relating to the position, work and responsibility of Methodism for the world's evangelization.

"*Resolved*, 2. That such Committee is hereby empowered to represent and speak for and in the name of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States in respect to said Ecumenical Conference, and is directed to make a full report of its proceedings to the General Conference of 1880.

"*Resolved*, 3. That the necessary expenses of such Committee of Correspondence be met in the same manner as expenses of fraternal delegates to other religious bodies are met." (Journal, p. 367.)

In pursuance of this action the Bishops at a meeting held in New York city, November, 1876, appointed said Committee of Correspondence, as follows:

Bishops—The Rev. Matthew Simpson, D.D., LL.D., of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and the Rev. Edward R. Ames, D.D., LL.D., of Baltimore, Maryland.

Other Ministers—The Rev. Augustus C. George, D.D., of Central New York Conference; the Rev. Lorenzo D. Barrows, D.D., of New Hampshire

Conference; the Rev. Park S. Donelson, D.D., of Central Ohio Conference; and the Rev. Isaac N. Baird, D.D., of Pittsburgh Conference.

Laymen—The Hon. J. W. Marshall, of Washington, District of Columbia; the Hon. James Harlan, of Mount Pleasant, Iowa; and Francis H. Root, Esq., of Buffalo, New York.

The Committee, as instructed by the General Conference, has taken the whole subject into consideration, made arrangements for correspondence with different Methodist bodies in this country and in other countries, and is ready to do whatever is needful and proper to secure an Ecumenical Conference of Methodism for the purpose of considering the position and work of the people so called, and the extent of their responsibility for the world's evangelization.

The committee "empowered to represent and speak for and in the name of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States" would respectfully represent that such an Ecumenical Conference as is proposed might properly consider such topics as the following:

The doctrinal basis of Methodism;

The itinerant ministry, and other means of evangelization;

Home missions, including Sunday-School Unions, and all associations for Church extension, and for the culture and conversion of special classes;

Education in Church and State, and especially theological seminaries and training schools for Christian workers;

Intemperance, pauperism, licentiousness, and, generally, the evils and crimes of modern civilization;

Publishing houses, periodicals, and the use of the press for the world's conversion;

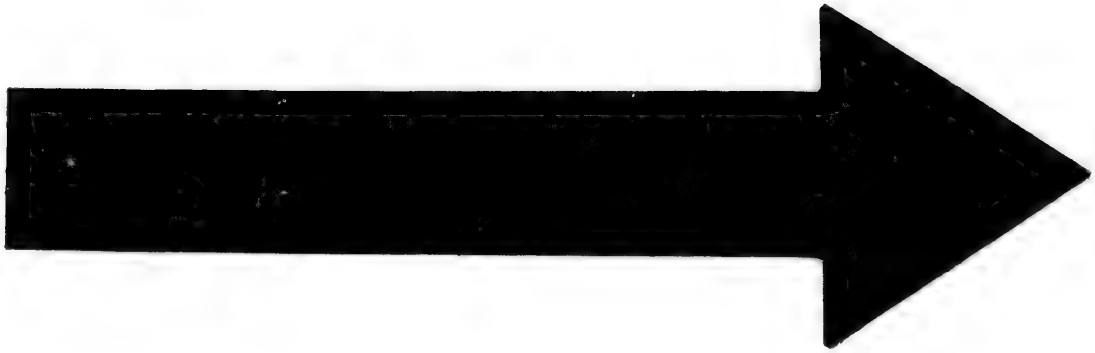
Foreign missions;

Perils from the Papacy, from infidelity, and from the desecration of the Sabbath;

The resources of the Methodist body, in numbers, wealth, culture and spiritual life, for doing the work of Christ, and the corresponding accountability; and many other themes of a kindred character.

That such an Ecumenical Conference would be a great blessing to the Church and the world can hardly be questioned. It would tend to harmonize and unify the different Methodist organizations, to break down caste and local prejudices, and to bind together in closest fellowships a people essentially one in doctrine, spirit and purpose. It would lead to such adjustments of the missionary work as to prevent friction and waste. It could not but be extremely suggestive in regard to modes and agencies for the most successful performance of the Church's work of evangelization.

It would, doubtless, give a great impulse to the cause of Temperance and of Sabbath observance, to Sunday-Schools, and to all the beneficent activities of the Church. The relation of Methodism, as a whole, to education, to civil government, to other Christian bodies, and to the world-wide mission-work, would certainly come to be better understood. In a word, an increase of Christian intelligence, of conscious spiritual power, and of faith in the redemption of the race from the bondage and degradation of vice and immorality, would without question be realized. A more earnest consecration, an intenser glow of enthusiasm, a more daring purpose of evangelism, and, consequently, more powerful revivals, and larger beneficences in every department of Christian endeavor, would mark the future progress of the Church. Such an Ecumenical Conference of Methodists would, moreover, attract the attention of scholars, thinkers, and reformers, and would lead to a discussion of the movement, and of the whole Methodist history, work and mission in every leading newspaper and periodical in Christendom. Methodism has everything to gain and nothing to lose by this discussion.



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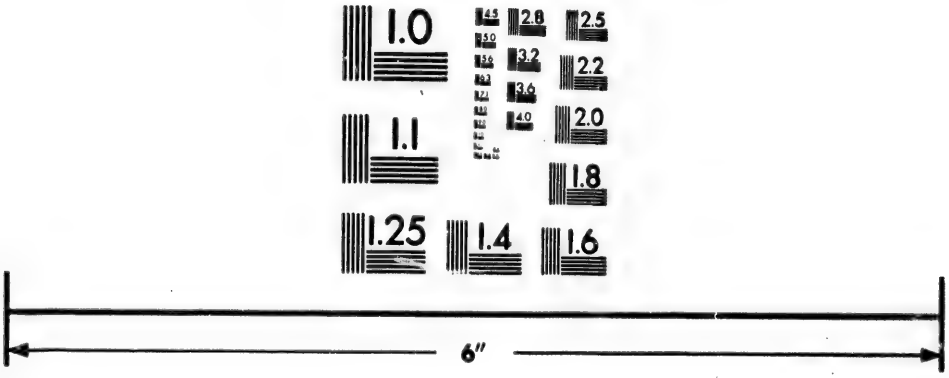

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Such an Ecumenical Conference ought, in our judgment, to include representatives from the following organizations:

United States: Methodist Episcopal Church, Methodist Episcopal Church South, Methodist Protestant Church, Methodist Church, American Wesleyan Church, Free Methodist Church, African Methodist Episcopal Church, African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Colored Methodist Episcopal Church of America, and the Evangelical Association.

Dominion of Canada: The Methodist Church of Canada, Methodist Episcopal Church of Canada, Primitive Methodist Church, and British Methodist Episcopal Church.

Great Britain: British Wesleyan Methodists, Irish Wesleyan Methodists, Primitive Methodist Church, Methodist New Connexion, United Methodist Free Churches, the Bible Christian Church, and the Wesleyan Reform Union.

Other Countries: The French Wesleyan Methodists and the Australian Wesleyan Methodists.

It would doubtless be wise to secure a special representation of the Foreign Mission work of the different bodies taking part in the Conference.

We respectfully suggest that the Conference be composed of clerical and lay members, in as nearly equal numbers as may be convenient, and that the basis of representation and the time and place of meeting be determined by the joint action, through correspondence or otherwise, of the several committees appointed by the different ecclesiastical bodies to be therein represented.

It would seem to be desirable to have the members of the Conference selected by the highest executive authority available for that purpose, in the respective Methodist bodies, and that a sufficient number of alternate delegates be provided.

In conclusion, dear brethren, we submit this whole subject to your wise and godly judgment for such action as may appear to you promotive of the Redeemer's kingdom and the wider usefulness of that common Methodism which is so dear to all our hearts.

In the bonds of a fraternal gospel, we are

Truly yours,

M. Simpson,
E. R. Ames,
A. C. George,
L. D. Barrows,
P. S. Donelson,
I. N. Baird,
J. W. Marshall,
J. Harlan,
F. H. Root,

Committee of the General Conference of Meth. Epis. Church in the United States.

Attest: A. C. George, Wheeling, W. Va.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

No. 1.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the educational interests of our Church, beg leave to report, as follows:

They recommend that a public meeting, in the interests of education, be held during the present session of Conference, and that the Committee on Divine Service be instructed to make arrangements therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

C. A. SIMPSON,
Chairman.

E. I. BADGLEY,
Secretary.

No. 2.

Your Committee beg leave to submit the following:

I. That *candidates for admission on trial into the Annual Conferences* be required to pass examination in the following subjects:

Common branches of an English education; Outline of Ancient and Modern History (Collier); Bible History.

II. That the following texts and work be prescribed as the Course of Study:

First Year.—English Grammar; Composition and Rhetoric (Bain); Sacred Geography and Antiquities (Barrows); Watson's Institutes, Pt. I.; Wesley's Plain Account of Christian Perfection; Kidder's Christian Pastorate; Bible Doctrines (Binney's Theological Compend); Discipline.

Candidate Deacons.—History of Methodism (Stevens); Watson's Institutes, Pt. II., Chap. i.–xvii.; Wesley's Sermons, i.–xxv.; Kidder's Homiletics; Logic (McCosh); Sacrament (Luckey's Lord Supper, and Hibbard on Baptism, Pt. I.); Essay.

Third Year.—History of the M. E. Church in Canada (Webster); Watson's Institutes, Pt. II., Chap. xviii. to the end); Stewart's Active and Moral Powers; Fletcher's Checks, i.–v.;

Kurtz's Church History to the Reformation; King's Primitive Church; Sketch.

Candidate Elders.—Kurtz's Church History from the Reformation; Handbook of Moral Philosophy (Calderwood); Angus's Bible Handbook; Smith's Old Testament History; Bledsoe's Theodicy; Hurst's History of Rationalism.

III. Graduates in Arts and candidates holding a Divinity testimonium shall not be required to pass an examination in those subjects passed during their collegiate course.

IV. No candidate shall be considered to have passed the examination for admission on trial who has failed to make thirty-five per cent. on the questions submitted to him.

V. Candidates for the examinations of the First and Second Years shall be required to make forty per cent. upon the questions submitted to them, and in case of failure to make the required percentage upon any subject, they shall not be required to be re-examined upon those subjects in which the required percentage has been obtained; provided always that a failure upon more than one half of the question papers submitted shall make the entire examination null and void.

VI. Candidates for the examinations of the Third and Fourth Years shall be required to make forty per cent. upon the questions submitted to them, with the same privileges and restrictions as those specified for the examinations of the First and Second Years; provided always that no candidate shall proceed to the ordination of Deacon or Elder, except in case of ordination for special work, until he shall have satisfactorily passed an examination in all the subjects for which he is a candidate.

VII. Each Annual Conference shall appoint a Chairman and Board of Examiners, whose duty it shall be to prepare all examination papers for the several years for which they may be appointed, to estimate the answers returned by the candidates, and report the same to the Registrar, as hereinafter to be provided.

VIII. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference to appoint a Registrar, who shall keep a record of all examinations in a book provided for that purpose, and who shall be associated with the Board of Examiners, and shall be responsible, under direction of the Chairman, for the regular and orderly proceeding of the examination of all candidates, and shall also prepare a report of the examinations, said report to be duly signed by the Chairman and Registrar, and to be by the Registrar submitted to the Conference.

IX. All papers to be submitted to candidates shall be forwarded under seal to the Registrar at least thirty days before the

date fixed for holding the examinations, and the Registrar shall be responsible to the Conference for said papers until the examinations have been duly held.

X. Each Annual Conference shall order whether any or all of the question papers for the next examination shall be printed, and provide for the payment thereof; and it shall be the duty of the Registrar to execute the order of the Conference in such case.

XI. A written copy of each question paper for each candidate, in those subjects not ordered to be printed, shall be prepared by the Examiner.

XII. All candidates for admission on trial and for examination shall meet the Chairman of the Board of Examiners and the Registrar, at ten o'clock a m., on the Tuesday preceding the time appointed for the meetings of the Annual Conference, the Chairman having duly given notice of the same in the *Canada Christian Advocate.*

XIII. It shall be the duty of the preacher in charge of the circuit or station entertaining the Conference to provide all necessary accommodation for the holding of the examinations.

XIV. A probationer attending any school or college, and neither having charge nor serving as junior on any field of labor, nor in any way doing regular work under official direction, shall not be credited with the years' probation.

XV. Your Committee would respectfully request the Bishop that the Annual Conferences be hereafter called to meet on Thursday, instead of Wednesday, as heretofore, in order to give sufficient time for holding the Conference examinations.

Respectfully submitted,

C. A. SIMPSON,
Chairman.

E. I. BADGLEY,
Secretary.

Sept. 5, 1878.

No. 3.

Your Committee on Education beg leave to submit the following:

I. It is a matter of profound congratulation to ourselves and gratitude to Almighty God that during the past quadrennium there has been a marked growth in the prosperity and influence of the educational department of our work.

II. The College collections during the quadrennium have been as follows:

Niagara Conference	$2408 25
Ontario Conference	2249 43
Bay Quinte Conference	1961 54

showing an increase of $1861.53 as compared with the preceding four years.

The Endowment Fund is $17,539.78 in advance of the amount pledged in 1874, and the assets, over and above liabilities, $66,434.78, as against $30,405.88 at the above date.

III. Your Committee recommend that all possible assistance be given the College Treasurer in the noble work he has undertaken and so successfully prosecuted.

IV. That the raising of ten cents per member by annual collections be strictly adhered to.

V. That the Rev. S. G. Stone, D.D., and the Rev. E. H. Pilcher, D.D., be appointed members of the University Senate.

VI. Your Committee would recommend that E. D. O'Flynn, Esq., be appointed as Trustee of Albert College, in the room and place of J. L. Tucker, Esq., as provided by Statute 20 Vict., Cap. lxxxiv., Sec. ii.; Nelson Dollar, in place of C. R. Mallory; and J. Aylsworth, in place of S. Massey.

VII. We are pleased that since the last General Conference steps have been taken for the erection of a Ladies' College at St. Thomas, that the institution is fast hastening to completion, and that over $20,000 have been secured in subscriptions for that purpose; and your Committee would recommend that this Conference take the Alma College at St. Thomas under its patronage and control, as provided by statute.

VIII. We recommend the following changes and additions in the Board of Trustees for Alma College, as provided by statute; That Rev. J. Curts be appointed in the room of W. D. Hughson; Edward Hegler, Esq., be appointed in the room of C. Palmer, Esq.; and that William Wallace, Esq., and Rev. G. Abbs be added to the Board.

IX. We recommend the agent of Alma College to the favorable consideration of both ministers and people, and urge that they give all possible aid to secure success this commendable enterprise.

X. Such stations and fields of labor in the Ontario and Bay Quinte Annual Conferences as have not yet been canvassed for the

Endowment Fund of Albert College shall not be canvassed by the agents for Alma College until such time as the agent for Albert College has completed his canvass on behalf of the Endowment Fund; provided, that said agent shall employ all proper diligence in the completion of his work.

Respectfully submitted,

C. A. SIMPSON,
Chairman.

E. I. BADGLEY,
Secretary.

September 5, 1878.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

The Board of the Sunday School Union beg leave to report:

That having carefully examined the Sunday School work throughout our connexion, so far as our knowledge extends, we find there has been a steady and increasing interest in every department.

For want of proper information the Board is not prepared to furnish statistical information.

The Board would respectfully recommend that the whole matter be referred to the Committee on Sabbath Schools, with instructions to examine, and if necessary, revise the Constitution.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

S. MORRISON,
President.

T. ARGUE,
Secretary.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

I. Your Committee would report, that after examining the report of the Annual Conferences for the quadrennium last past, we find an average increase in the number of schools, officers, teachers and scholars, as follows: Number of schools reported in the Annual Conference Reports for 1878, 7848—increase, 64; number of officers and teachers, 3,012—increase, 286; number of scholars, 20,997—increase, 6,682. We regret that there is not a full report of the number of conversions in connection with our Sabbath School work; but would say, that so far as reported, the reports show that a large number have been led to the Saviour through the instrumentality of our Sabbath Schools.

II. That more definite information may be obtained in the future in regard to our Sabbath Schools, we recommend that the Annual Conference give a separate Sabbath School statistical report in the annual minutes, stating the number of schools, officers and teachers, scholars, conversions, name of superintendent, moneys collected and disbursed and for what purpose.

III. We also recommend that our schools continue to use the National Series of S. S. Lessons.

IV. We further recommend that Conference S. S. Conventions be held each year within the bounds of the several Annual Conferences, at such times and places as may be decided by a Central Conference Committee, appointed yearly by the Annual Conferences. It shall be the duty of said committees to make all necessary arrangements for such Conventions.

V. Your Committee would add that the report committed to them from the S. S. Union is so meagre as to hardly indicate its existence, giving no information as to its workings, and, therefore, we are unable to report anything in regard to it, but believe that it has failed to do the work contemplated in its organization.

VI. We would recommend that the portion of Discipline committed to our consideration, found on pages 159 and 160, referring to the relation of baptized children to the Church, etc., be left as it is in the Discipline.

Respectfully submitted,

I. B. AYLSWORTH,
Chairman.
W. SERVICE,
Secretary.
C. A. SIMPSON,
C. BURDETTE,
A. E. GRIFFITH.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the subject of Temperance, beg leave to report, as follows :

We have no need as a Church to define our position on the temperance question ; yet, we cannot but feel gratified with the fact that a healthy tone has been given to public sentiment in reference to the nature and effects of strong drink upon the community. We trust the day has arrived for the people of this Dominion to unitedly stand up against the encroachments and destructive influences of the liquor traffic. We are glad to know that the Government of the Dominion have placed an Act on the statutes known as the "Temperance Act of 1878." We urge upon our people to use every legitimate means for the establishment of said Act. That the question of prohibition is taking an ever-increasing hold upon the inhabitants of this country is beyond all doubt. No one who knows anything of the present currents and counter-currents of opinion that are struggling in Canada and elsewhere for the mastery, would ever so far compromise his credit for forecast as to doubt the fact, far less to deny it absolutely, among the soberest and most intelligent of our population. The principle of prohibition has become a cardinal doctrine of their faith, just as the principle of total abstinence from the use of intoxicating drinks has become a cardinal article of their practice. Yet there is plenty to do before the people, or a great majority of them, are converted to this view. We rejoice to believe, however, that at the present rate of progress we will undoubtedly secure the victory. Let us then work with a will, having faith in God and the righteousness of our cause.

Your Committee would respectfully recommend all our people to identify themselves with all judicious means or measures that are or may be inaugurated to secure the prohibition of the traffic in strong drink by legal enactment.

A. E. GRIFFITH.
F. CHISHOLM.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PASTORAL ADDRESS.

The Committee on the Pastoral Address beg leave to report that the pressing duties in Committees and Conference sessions have prevented and will prevent the preparation of a fitting Pastoral Address during the present session.

The Committee would therefore recommend the appointment of a committee of three, to be associated with the Bishop, who shall be instructed to prepare and publish in the *Canada Christian Advocate* a Pastoral Address, to be signed by the Bishop and Committee in behalf of the General Conference.

The Committee to be nominated by J. Gardiner.

Respectfully submitted,

J. GARDINER,
Chairman.

J. R. JAQUES,
Secretary.

REPORT OF THE CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY

OF THE M E. CHURCH IN CANADA, AND OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT THEREOF.

At the General Conference of 1874, held at Napanee, the Church Extension Society of the M. E. Church in Canada was organized.

The work of the Society during the four years of its existence has not been extensive, yet sufficient has been done to show what might be accomplished under more thorough organization and with more vigorous effort.

The Society and Board of Management have held regular meetings during the interval, and have reason to hope that their work has proved to some extent satisfactory.

It is to be regretted that so few have become members of the Society on payment of one dollar, as provided by the constitution. Only fifteen have thus identified themselves with the Society, one of whom became a life member on payment of ten dollars.

The efforts of the Society in the securing of funds have been chiefly confined to the collections taken up in the various Circuits, which have amounted during the past three years (no collections having been taken the first year) to the sum of $528.09 from the Conferences, as follows: Niagara, $207.94; Ontario, $194.11; Bay of Quinte, $102.04; subscriptions from members, $24.00. From the funds thus collected, relief has been granted to the following Churches: Lindsay, $75.00; Oil Springs, $28.00; Chatham, $100.00; Hamilton, $100.00; Renfrew, $100.00; and London, $75.00. Expenses for traveling, drafts and Secretary's book to the amount of $33.85 have been paid, leaving a balance of $16.24.

As will be seen, the amounts contributed to the various Churches have been of necessity small; still, the help so rendered has been sufficient to convince the Board that grand things may be done by the Society, with a united effort throughout the Church.

Several applications for aid have been before the Board which did not receive sanction, in some cases because more needy applicants awaited relief, and the Board judged it unwise to divide the already small allowance made; in other cases the applications had not passed the Annual Conference Boards and received their sanction.

The Board confidently hope that this General Conference will adopt some more simple method of working the machinery of the Society, and also institute some plan by which a more general and more liberal support will be rendered the Society, believing that the time has come for our Church to enter, so fast as practicable, every city and town within our boundary, and this Society, when its claims are properly placed before the people, will be a mighty auxiliary in the accomplishment of the work.

All of which is submitted. By order of the Board,

A. CARMAN,
President.

J. S. WILLIAMSON,
Secretary.

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY OF THE CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY.

In receiving the appointment of Corresponding Secretary of the Church Extension Society, I supposed the duties *not* defined by the Constitution or Discipline would be in some sense discretionary with the executive officer of the Society; but the Board immediately assumed the entire management, and the President has directed all the affairs of the Society.

The Boards of the Annual Conferences and the applicants have been remiss in the form and time of their action, as preparation for the Board of the Society to act in *their* behalf.

Your Secretary found it impracticable to *do more* than heartily to commend and encourage this important service to the Church.

The applications for aid and the votes granting aid have *not* passed through the hands of the Corresponding Secretary, but through the Board.

I hope the Constitution may be so amended as to make the rules plain and practicable.

JAMES GARDINER,
Cor. Sec'y, Church Ex. Soc.

BELLEVILLE, August 30, 1878.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES.

Your Committee find that the late Rev. James Richardson, D.D., Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, was born at what is now the city of Kingston, Province of Ontario, on the 29th day of January, 1791. He joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in August, 1818. He commenced his labors as an itinerant on Yonge Street Circuit in 1824, and joined the Conference in 1825. He was ordained Deacon, September 2, 1827, and Elder, August 22, 1830. He was ordained to the office of a Bishop in the M. E. Church on the 22nd of August, 1858. He died at his home in Toronto on the 9th of March, 1875, in the 85th year of his age, sustained and comforted by the power of the Gospel that for so many years he had preached. "Mark the perfect man and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HIRAM WILLIAMS,
THOS. WEBSTER,
STEPHEN CARD.

J. H. HILTS,
Secretary.

COMMITTEE ROOMS,
Sept. 6, 1878.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON INCORPORATIONS.

Your Committee on Incorporations respectfully submit the following report:

I. That an Act of Incorporation be procured for our Book Room, similar in its provisions to the Act applying to the Methodist Book Concern at New York.

II. That an application be made to the Dominion Parliament for an Act to extend the Act incorporating our Missionary Society, so that it may apply to the whole Dominion.

III. That application be made to the Parliament of Ontario, or, if necessary, to the Dominion Parliament, for an Act of Incorporation for our Superannuated Preachers' Fund, and other benevolent funds of the Church.

IV. That the Revs. J. Gardiner, S. G. Stone, Messrs. E. Hegler, Esq., A. Harley, Esq., and J. Rosevere, M.P.P., be a Committee to take the necessary steps to give effect to the said recommendations, and that the Bishop be and is hereby requested to co-operate with the said Committee.

Said Committee to be convened at such time and place as Rev. J. Gardiner, with the concurrence of any two members thereof, may determine.

G. CLARK,
Chairman.

S. G. STONE,
Secretary.

CONFERENCE COM. ROOM,
Belleville, Sept. 5, 1878.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EVANGELISTS.

The Committee on Evangelists and their Relation to the Church beg to report:

I. That they deem it expedient to employ this agency, in itself Scriptural and approved of God, where circumstances warrant it.

II. They recommend that persons appointed to this work be members or probationers of an Annual Conference, and amenable thereto.

III. That a clause be added to the Discipline, Page 67, Part II, Ch. iii, Sec. 1, Ques. 3 (Page 66), in the following words:

"To appoint one or more evangelists, on the recommendation of an Annual Conference, to labor in our work, such evangelist being a member or probationer of an Annual Conference."

J. R. JAQUES,
Chairman.

A. MARTIN,
Secretary.

REPORT ON CAMP-MEETINGS.

We, your Committee on Camp-Meetings, beg leave to report: that,

Whereas, God has greatly blessed the institution of Camp-Meetings in leading many precious souls to Christ,

Resolved, That as a Church we heartily endorse and are perfectly in sympathy with all the modern improvements in connection with this true and God-honored institution, and that while we deeply deprecate that in any instance they have been utilized more particularly for pleasure seeking and mental culture than for immediate conversion of men, yet we regard them as furnishing among the best opportunities and facilities for the quickening of the Church and the conversion of sinners, and shall, therefore, sustain and encourage them for the accomplishment of these ends.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

A. D. TRAVELLER.
B. BRISTOL.
J. WOOD.
A. CAMPBELL.
W. SERVICE.
C. A. SIMPSON.

REPORT ON CENTENARY.

Your Committee on Centenary of Canadian Methodism beg leave to report, as follows :

That having searched carefully the different histories of American Methodism, they find that the first Methodist Society organized in Canada was sometime in the year of our Lord 1778, which would make the present year of grace (1878) the centenary year of Canadian Methodism. Owing to the fact that the time at our disposal for properly bringing the celebration of Canadian Methodism before our people is so limited, your Committee would respectfully refer to the Conference the question whether or not steps should be taken for such celebration.

Respectfully submitted,

T. WEBSTER,
Chairman.

F. CHISHOLM,
Secretary.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LAW QUESTIONS.

No. 1.

The Committee on Law Questions met in the basement of the church, August 31st, 1878.

On motion, O. G. Collamore was appointed Chairman, and E. H. Pilcher, Secretary.

Present,—O. G. Collamore, S. Morrison, J. H. Andrews, D. Wilson, E. H. Pilcher.

The Committee then proceeded to the consideration of the various questions submitted to them, and return the answers thereto appended. They were adopted, unless otherwise noted.

Ques. 1. Can a man under any circumstances claim membership in two Quarterly Conferences at one and the same time.

Ans. He cannot, except in case of trustees of Church property who have not been released from their trusteeship. [This was referred back to the Committee.]

2. Is the pastor of a Circuit chairman *ex-officio* of all Circuit Committees not otherwise provided for by Discipline.

Ans. He is.

3. Can a member or preacher who has withdrawn to escape trial be received on probation without being held liable for the old charge?

Ans. He may be. [Laid on the table.]

4. Has an elder a right to administer the sacrament without the use of the prayer for the consecration of the elements?

Ans. He has no such right.

5. Is it competent, when a Conference committee have found an accused person guilty of a crime sufficient to exclude him from the kingdom of grace and glory, to inflict a penalty other than the Discipline provides?

Ans. If by "other" is meant *greater*,—No. If by it is meant *less than the extreme penalty*,—Yes.

6. After a minister in regular standing in Annual Conference has received an appointment from the Stationing Committee, can he be set aside and left without work during the remainder of the year, when no charges have been preferred against him?

Ans. He cannot.

6. Has a District Conference power or right to refuse to renew a local preacher's license, on the ground of mere absence from the meeting of the Conference, particularly when he has complied with the requirements of said Conference by corresponding with and informing it of his inability to be present?

Ans. They have the power provided by Discipline. [Laid on the table.]

8. What is the meaning of the question, Are there any complaints?

Ans. It refers to and embraces only cases of arbitration and non-payment of debts. [Not adopted.]

9. In case a claimant on the Superannuated Fund should lose his wife by death, and he should marry again, what effect would his second marriage have on his claim?

Ans. It would have no effect on his claim.

10. Is it the prerogative of the General Conference to deprive a regular delegate, duly elected a member of the General Conference, of his right to vote and otherwise participate in the proceedings of an entire sitting, because he is not present within the Conference chambers when the roll is called, provided that subsequent to the calling of the roll he is so present.

Ans. They have no such right. [Not adopted.]

No. 2.

1. Can a person be received as a member of the M. E. Church in Canada while he is at the same time a member of another denomination?

Ans. Yes.

2. When a person joins our Church on trial and fills up the time of probation stated in the Discipline, can he claim full membership in the event that the preacher in charge neglects to formally admit him?

Ans. He cannot. (*See Discipline, p. 79.*)

3. Is it the prerogative of the preacher in charge of a Circuit to decide the status of a person on trial, who has put in his full probation, without any reference to the class with which he has stood connected?

Ans. The question is so ambiguous that it is difficult to frame an answer; yet we answer, No.

4. When an expelled member of our Church appeals from the decision of the committee who tried him, stating informality as the ground of his appeal, has the Quarterly Conference so appealed to a right to refuse to entertain the appeal.

Ans. No.

5. A request being made by a benevolent society to an Annual Conference for one of its members to act in the capacity of an agent, the Conference grants permission by resolution. Should this time be reckoned as effective labor?

Ans. It should be so reckoned.

6 Can a probationer be continued on trial for more than six months?

Ans. He can.

7. When a member of the Church is known to be guilty of gross immorality, and no other member can be found to enter a charge against him or become the prosecutor in his case, what is the duty of the preacher in charge of the case?

Ans. To institute proceedings in behalf of the Church.

No. 3.

The Committee on Law Questions beg leave to report further, that they having had under consideration all the questions submitted to them since last report, would report them back with the answers, as follows:

1. If a superannuated preacher dies, leaving a wife, and she ceases to be a member of the Church, has she a claim on the Superannuated Fund?

Ans. Inasmuch as there is no law on the subject, it is in the discretion of the Annual Conference.

2. Is it in the power of a pastor, by vote of the society, to receive a member into full connection in our Church who comes without a letter, while at the same time the pastor and the society may have perfect satisfaction as to the previous membership.

Ans. The vote of the society does not affect the case; the minister is the judge of the compliance with law.

3. Is a definite and indefinite suspension to be understood as one and the same thing, lapsing at the end of the year without action of the Conference?

Ans. No; a definite suspension terminates at the time specified; an indefinite suspension must terminate with the Conference year.

No. 4.

The Committee on Law Questions have had under consideration the questions submitted to them, and beg leave to report them back with the answers thereto appended:

1. When a person who has held full membership in another Christian Church, bringing a letter of his standing, wishes to

connect himself with us, ought a preacher in charge receive him without bringing his case before the society?

Ans. Yes.

2. If a superannuated minister should become a widower and marry again, would his second wife sustain the same relation to the Superannuated Fund that the first held?

Ans. No.

3. Is a probationer in an Annual Conference a member of the District Conference within the District where he labors, and in case of alleged immorality by whom is the process of trial to commence, and before what tribunal must he appear?

Ans. The District Conference.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

O. G. COLLAMORE,
Chairman.

E. H. PILCHER,
Secretary.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance beg leave to report, as follows:

NIAGARA CONFERENCE COLLECTIONS.

NIAGARA DISTRICT.

Hamilton		$3 87	Dunnville	(Paid)	$0 60
Ancaster	(Paid)	2 25	Pelham		2 50
Barton	"	2 00	St. Davids	(Paid)	2 00
Flamboro'		5 00	Welland	"	2 00
Beverly		6 10	Humberstone	"	2 00
Brant		4 50	Erie	"	70
Saltfleet	(Paid)	2 00	Brantford	"	1 00
Smithville		3 20			
Canboro'	(Paid)	1 00	Total on District		$40 72

ERIE DISTRICT.

Ingersoll	(Paid)	$3 00	Aylmer	(Paid)	$2 00
Embro		5 40	Oakland		5 81
Mount Elgin	(Paid)	4 81	Blenheim		6 72
Norwich		6 57	Sweaborg	(Paid)	3 00
Vienna	(Paid)	1 00			
Malahide	"	2 05	Total on District		$44 93
Springfield		4 57			

LONDON DISTRICT.

St. Marys		$8 00	Maitland	(Paid)	$2 00
Strathroy	(Paid)	1 50	Caradoc	"	1 15
Thamesford	"	3 00	St. Thomas		1 00
Dorchester	"	5 25	Forest	(Paid)	1 00
Southwold	"	4 00			
Goderich	"	2 00	Total on District		$30 90
Bosanquet	"	2 00			

CHATHAM DISTRICT.

Chatham	(Paid)	$2 00	Harwich		$8 80
Dresden	"	1 00	Raleigh	(Paid)	2 00
Wallaceburg	"	1 00	Essex Centre	"	3 00
Bothwell	"	1 45	St. Clair	"	2 00
Wyoming	"	3 00	Sydenham	"	2 00
Petrolia	"	2 16	Leamington		1 00
Brook		7 00	Howard	(Paid)	2 90
Florence	(Paid)	1 50			
Glencoe	"	3 48	Total on District		$47 29
Thamesville		3 00			

No returns from the following Circuits:

Chippawa,	London,	Stanley,
Tilsonburg,	London Circuit,	Seaforth,
Hartford,	Westminster,	Brussels,
Walsingham,	Arkona,	Wheatly,
Charlotteville,	Parkhill,	Oil Springs.
Rainham,		

Total for Niagara Conference.....$163 84

NIAGARA CONFERENCE DELEGATES' EXPENSES.

	CLAIM.	PAID.
J. Gardiner	$9 50	....
E. Lounsbury	12 00	....
R. C. Parsons	8 25	$6 10
W. G. Brown	13 00	....
J. N. Elliott	12 40	4 57
W. D. Hughson	10 45	....
J. S. Williamson	6 77	3 87
E. Bristol	8 50	....
J. Reynolds	9 00	3 20
E. H. Pilcher	11 62	1 00
W. Benson	9 00	6 57
O. G. Collamore	12 00	2 00
S. Card	9 00	3 00
T. Webster	12 85	....
J. H. Kennedy	10 00	4 81
W. H. Shaw	9 10	6 72
J. K. Phillips	7 00	4 50

	CLAIM.	PAID.
J. T. Davis	10 00	5 81
B. C. Moore	9 35	5 25
A. E. Griffith	11 50	....
C. E. Benson	9 15	2 00
J. Wood	11 75	7 00
S. L. Kerr	12 50	3 00
B. Bristol	6 27	5 00
C. Burdette	13 00	8 80
RESERVES.		
J. F. Fairchilds	8 15	2 50
M. Dimmick	12 67	3 00
J. B. Cutler	10 50	8 11
H. Lock	9 12	5 40
	$294 40	$102 21

ONTARIO CONFERENCE COLLECTIONS.

COLBORNE DISTRICT.

Frankford	$1 00	Brighton	$3 63
Trenton	1 50	Colborne	4 24
Stirling	4 00	Haldimand	3 00
Madoc	1 50	Hope	2 00
Campbellford	1 00	Orono	1 50
Blairton	1 00		
Percy	1 50	Total on District	$25 87

TORONTO DISTRICT.

Oshawa	$4 10	Markham	$5 05
Brooklin	1 00	Yonge Street	7 05
Whitby	2 00	Brampton	8 15
Port Perry	3 50	Georgetown	3 00
Reach	1 00	Nelson and Oakville	6 50
Oakwood	1 76	Queensville	2 24
Lindsay	1 00	Darlington	2 00
Uxbridge	1 00		
King	5 93	Total on District	$55 28

HURON DISTRICT.

Orangeville	$2 00	Teeswater	$4 00
Garafraxa	4 00	Listowell	1 50
Meaford	5 63	Palmerston	1 50
Thornbury	2 00	Mount Forest	4 00
Creemore	4 00		
Kincardine	4 00	Total on District	$32 63

No returns from the following Circuits :

Belleville,	Eramosa,	Invermay,
Cobourg,	Melancthon,	Eugenia.
Winnipeg,	Hanover,	

Total for Ontario Conference.....$113 78

ONTARIO CONFERENCE DELEGATES' EXPENSES.

	CLAIM.	PAID.
G. Abbs	$6 50	$5 93
T. Argue	6 00	6 00
J. Curts	6 00	5 93
A. Campbell	1 10	....
G. Clark	9 50	5 63
R. B. Denike	....	....
F. M. Finn	....	....
J. H. Hilts	12 50	....
J. R. Jaques	....	....
B. Lane	....	....
G. Miller	4 10	3 00
S. Morrison	6 50	6 00
W. Pirritte	1 00	....
J. M. Simpson	9 00	9 00
C. A. Simpson	4 45	3 50
R. Sanderson	5 32	5 32
G. Bennett	5 63	5 05
RESERVES.		
R. Large	12 50	4 00
R. E. Lund	1 00	....
J. C. Pomeroy	12 50	....
C. Taylor	6 00	6 00
	$109 10	$65 36

BAY QUINTE CONFERENCE COLLECTIONS.

NAPANEE DISTRICT.

Napanee	$3 00	Selby	$3 28
Picton	2 50	Tamworth	1 50
Canifton	2 00	Hallowell	2 75
Foxboro	75	Milford	2 00
Shannonville	2 00	Demorestville	55
Morven	2 13	Cloyne	1 00
Bay	1 27	Arden	75
Odessa	3 33		
Loughborough	1 00	Total on District	$31 21
Camden	1 40		

KINGSTON DISTRICT.

Brockville	$4 60	Inverary	2 25
Lyn	3 15		
Mallorytown	3 00	Total on District	$14 50
Gananoque	1 50		

OTTAWA DISTRICT.

Prescott	$2 50	Toledo	2 00
Winchester	3 00	Farmersville	3 00
Inkerman	2 00	Elgin	4 00
Matilda	3 00	Napean	50
Edwardsburg	2 50	Renfrew	1 00
Ventnor	1 00		
North Augusta	75	Total on District	$27 15
Easton's Corners	1 90		

No returns from the following Circuits :

Melville,	Wolfe Island,	Newington.
Millpoint,	Lansdowne,	Augusta,
Vannachar,	Morris,	Lyndhurst,
Parham,	Ottawa East,	Arnprior,
Tweed,	Ottawa West,	Westmeath,
Verona,	Aultsville,	Riceville.
Opinicon,		

Total for Bay Quinte Conference.....$72 86

BAY QUINTE CONFERENCE DELEGATES' EXPENSES.

	CLAIM.	PAID.
W. Blair	$6 00	$3 00
A. D. Traveller	1 50	....
G. S. White	5 50	4 00
F. B. Stratton	2 00	....
W. Service	4 50	3 00
I. B. Aylsworth	50	....
W. H. Graham	6 50	6 50
J. Young	1 50	....
B. F. Austin	5 00	2 50
J. P. Wilson	1 10	....
H. Williams	1 25	....
W. Brown	1 25	....
T. W. Pickett	4 00	....
F. Chisholm	3 50	....
A. Martin	1 00	....
J. D. Bell	3 81	....
E. Woodcock	4 30	1 90
D. Wilson	1 10	....
J. H. Andrews	1 25	....
C. S. Eastman	1 50	....
J. E. Mavety	6 30	4 60
E. I. Badgley	....	....
	$63 36	$25 50

TOTAL RECEIPTS.

Niagara Conference Collections	[illegible] 54
Ontario Conference Collections	113 78
Bay Quinte Conference Collections	72 86
Sunday Collections	41 80
	$392 28

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid Secretary's expenses for stationery, printing, etc	$20 50
Paid James G. Robinson, Church expenses	30 00
	$50 50
Balance on hand	
Full amount of claims	$341 78
Percentage to be paid	467 36
	.70

The report was amended by a motion appointing Bro. Denike Treasurer, to receive monies from pastors where collections have not already been taken, and monies refunded where too much has been paid; and this money to be paid to defray the expenses of a delegate to Montreal, to the C. M. General Conference, and any that may remain to be divided among the delegates who are deficient in receiving enough to pay their expenses.

G. CLARK,
S. L. KERR,
J. E. MAVETY.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION.

No. 1.

The Committee on Revision report on the propositions referred to them for amendments to the Discipline as follows, with the recommendations thereto attached:

N.B.—If no other note is attached, the proposition was adopted, and any amendment made by the General Conference is incorporated as if made in the Report.

Item. I. On Page 19, Part I., Chap. i., Ques. 1, Ans. 2 and 3 to be expunged. Ans. 2. Let him declare that whosoever does

this will be put back on trial for six months. Ans. 3. When any such is put back on trial let a suitable exhortation be subjoined.

Item II. Page 20, Part I., Chap. i., Sec. 4—Let the last sentence on the page be expunged, viz: "And even in a doubtful case the member should be put back on trial."

Item III (*a*). Page 23, Part I., Chap. ii., Sec. 2, Ques. 1—Ans. 7 be expunged, namely: "Let the women constantly sing their parts alone; let no man sing with them unless he understand the notes, and sings the bass as it is composed in the tune book." (*b*). Ans. 14. Not recommended to be expunged. [This was not adopted, and the answer was expunged.]

Item IV. Page 25, Part I., Chap. ii., Sec. 3—Questions 4 and 5 with their answers to be expunged: "Ques. 4. How often shall we permit those who are not of our Church to meet in class? Ans. At every other meeting of the class, in every place, let no stranger be admitted; at other times they may, but the same person not above twice or thrice. Ques. 5. How often shall we permit strangers to be present at our love feasts? Ans. Let them be admitted with the utmost caution, and the same person on no account above twice or thrice unless he become a member."

Item V. Page 167—We recommend the addition to Sec. 7 on the support of missions: "It is earnestly recommended that each Sunday School in our Churches and congregations be organized into a missionary society under such rules and regulations as the pastor, superintendent and the teachers may prescribe, and that the contributions of the Sunday Schools shall be reported in a separate column in our minutes and missionary reports." (See Journal 1874, p. 16.)

Item VI. Page 64—We recommend to add the following to Sec. 12, Ques. 1, Ans. 5: "And also to give notice of such certificate and removals to the pastor of the charge to which such persons have removed."

Item VII. Page 177—Of the appointment of trustees: "Ques. 1. Who are eligible to the office of trustees? Ans. Any regular member of our Church being twenty-one years of age is eligible as a trustee of any of our Church property. The Secretary shall make a record of the appointment in the minutes of the circuit book." [This was substituted by the new section on the subject in Report No. 5.]

Item VIII. We recommend the following to be added on Page 178, Ques. 4, in the fifteenth line from the bottom of the page, after the word "located," viz.: "Or shall send a written res-

ignation to the preacher in charge or the chairman of the board of trustees." [This was laid on the table.]

Item IX. We recommend on Page 39, Sec. 10—"Have any vacancies or changes occurred in trust deeds?"—to strike out "deeds" and insert "boards." [This was laid on the table.]

Item X. Page 67, Ques. 2, Ans. 2, line 3 from the top—Strike out "supernumerary, superannuated and worn out preachers." [This was not adopted.]

Item XI. Page 67, Ques. 3, Ans. 3—Strike out "receive and suspend."

Item XII. Page 69, Chap. iv., Ques. 2, Ans. 3—Strike out "receive and suspend."

Item XIII. Page 70, Ans. 5—Insert "trustees of Church property and approved Sabbath School superintendents."

Item XIV. Page 70, Ans. 5—Strike out the last paragraph, namely: "The Quarterly Meeting Conference shall appoint a Secretary to take down the proceedings thereof in a book kept by one of the Stewards of the Circuit for that purpose."

Report No. 2.

Item IV. [The previous items are omitted, being long and not adopted by the Conference.] Page 69, Chap. iv., Sec. 1—Ques. 1, relating to the Committee with whose consent the Bishop may appoint the Presiding Elders, to be expunged. [Not recommended.]

Item V. Page 67, Ques. 3, Ans. 3—Add the following: "Provided, nevertheless, he shall not change any preacher contrary to his wish unless by the advice of two or more members of the Annual Conference"; so that it will read: "3. In the intervals of the Conference, to change preachers as necessity may require and as the Discipline directs: provided, nevertheless, he shall not change any preacher contrary to his wish, unless by the advice of two or more members of the Annual Conference.

Item VI. Page 177, seventh line from the top, Ques. 1, Ans. 2—Expunge all after the word "build," and substitute the following: "and proceed as their judgment may direct"; so that it will read: "who shall form an estimate of the amount necessary to build, and proceed as their judgment may direct."

Item VII. Page 82, Sec. 3, eighth line from the bottom—Strike out the words, "except such as absent themselves from trial after sufficient notice given them"; so that it will read: "he shall be allowed an appeal to the next Quarterly Meeting Conference, and the members present shall finally determine the case."

Item VIII. Page 80—Add to Sec. 1 the following words: "If any member in good standing in any orthodox Church shall desire to unite with us, such applicant may, by giving satisfactory answers to the foregoing inquiries, be received at once into full fellowship."

Item IX. Page 80, Ques. 2—To stand as Ans. 1: "Let none be admitted on trial except they are well recommended by one you know, or until they have met twice or thrice in class." [This item was not adopted.]

Report No. 3.

Item I. Page 67, Chap. iii., Sec. 1, Ans. 5—Proposition to substitute the Committee with whose consent the Bishop appoints the Presiding Elders for the Presiding Elders.

Item II. Provided always that no district shall embrace more than from twelve to sixteen circuits or stations.

The first item will then read: "According to the judgment of the Bishop, with the concurrence of the Committee with whose consent the Bishop appoints the Presiding Elders."

The second item will read: "Provided always that no district shall embrace more than from twelve to sixteen circuits and stations."

[The first item was adopted, but the second was rejected.]

Report No. 4.

Item I. Page 38—Substitute the following as the order of business in the Quarterly Conference:

1. Organization.
2. Devotional exercises.
3. Appoint Secretary.
4. Approve of Sabbath-School Superintendents.

5. Call the roll of members.
6. Business to be inquired into—
   (1) Are there any complaints?
   (2) Are there any appeals?
   (3) Are there any reports?—
      (a) From the pastor.
      (b) From the trustees.
      (c) From committees—
         Finance committee.
         On Church records.
         On parsonage and furniture.
7. What amounts have been apportioned to be raised by this charge this year?
   (1) For pastor's salary.
   (2) For pastor's moving expenses.
   (3) For Episcopal Fund.
   (4) For support of Presiding Elder.
   (5) For Superannuated Fund.
8. What amount has been raised during the quarter for the support of the ministry, and how has it been applied?
   (1) On salary.
   (2) By public collection.
   (3) From other sources.

   Applied—
   (1) On pastor's salary.
   (2) On Presiding Elder's claim.
   (3) For Episcopal Fund.
9. Who shall constitute the disciplinary committees?
   (1) Finance Committee.
   (2) On Church records.
   (3) On parsonage and furniture.
   (4) On miscellaneous matters.
10. Who shall be the stewards for the ensuing year?
11. Who are the trustees?
12. Have any vacancies occurred in trustee boards?
13. Have the claims of the Presiding Elders and the Episcopal Fund been met?
14. What has been raised for the Colleges?
15. Have the General Rules been read this quarter?
16. Examination of character and renewal of licenses.
17. Are there any recommendations?
   (1) For license.
   (2) For the itinerancy.
   (3) For orders.
18. Will you grant your pastor a certificate of general acceptability?
19. What is the value of your Church property?

Item II. Page 70, Sec. 1, Ques. 1, Ans. 5—Add the following: "and also to appoint committees, as follows: (1) On missions; (2) on estimating pastor's salary; (3) on Church records; (4) on parsonage and furniture; (5) on Sabbath Schools."

Item III. We recommend that the first question in the order of business in the Quarterly Conferences be expunged—namely: "Are there any complaints?" [This item was laid on the table.]

Item IV. Page 38, Chap. i., Sec. 4—Add the following:

"*Ques.* 2. What directions shall be given concerning District Conferences?

"*Ans.* In addition to the regular District meeting, there shall be held annually in each District a District Conference, composed of all the travelling and local preachers and two delegates from each circuit, mission or station throughout the District, said delegates to be elected by the Quarterly Conference. The Presiding Elder of each District shall fix the time and place for the first District Conference, after which he shall fix the time and the Conference the place, and he shall preside over the deliberations. In his absence the Conference shall elect a travelling elder President *pro tem.*

"*Ques.* 3. What shall be the duties of this District Conference?

"*Ans.* 1. To take the general oversight of the affairs of the District.

"*Ans.* 2. To recommend suitable candidates for reception into the Annual Conference, on trial in the itinerancy; provided no person shall be recommended to the Annual Conference without receiving a recommendation from the Quarterly Conference of which he is a member. The above provision to apply only where no local preachers' conference is held.

"*Ans.* 3. To give special attention to Sabbath-School work, and to look after mission and church extension work in the District.

"*Ans.* 4. To provide literary and other exercises during its own sittings."

Item V. Page 36, No. 7—Add to the said section the following, to wit: "The time a man has had license to preach in any orthodox denomination may be allowed."

Item VI. Page 39—Add, "Will you grant your pastor a certificate of general acceptability? What is the value of your Church property?" [These two questions are transferred to Item I., No. 4.]

Item VII. Page 60, Part II., Sec. 10—At the bottom of the page add, "or may be admitted to Deacon's orders without the usual probation of two years.

Item VIII. Journals, 1874, page 13, Report No. 5, Item III—Strike out, "and give such assistance to the Book Agent as he may be able to render"; so that it will read, "Book Committee or the General Conference, and in the interval of the General Conference."

Item IX. Page 67, first line—Expunge the words, "unless by request of the Annual Conference." [Not recommended.]

Item X. Page 67, Journals, 1874, page 12, Item V., Ques. 5—Add to the answer, "and approved by the Annual Conference." [Not recommended.]

Item XI. Page 70, Ques. 4 and answer to Ques. 4—Expunge all in relation to it in the Journals, 1874, and we recommend that Question and Answer 4 in the Discipline be restored.

Item XII. Page 71, Ans. 2—He may be assigned to a pastoral charge, which shall provide for his salary. [This is not recommended.]

Item XIII. Page 56, Ans. 2 to Ques. 1—Expunge first paragraph, Ans. 2, so that it will read, "but no one shall be received unless he first procure a recommendation.

Report No. 5.

Item 1. Page 177 of Discipline—Substitute the following for the present Section 4:

"TRUSTEES—THEIR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

"Each Board of Trustees of our Church property hereafter to be created shall consist of not less than three nor more than nine persons, each of whom shall be not less than twenty-one years of age, two-thirds of whom shall be members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada.

"The first Board of Trustees for our Church, hereafter, shall be appointed by a Quarterly Conference and certified to by the President and Secretary thereof. The Quarterly Conference of the Circuit or Station within the bounds of which any Board may exist, hereafter created, shall fill all vacancies therein.

"Vacancies in Boards of Trustees may occur by death, by resignation which is accepted by the Quarterly Conference, by

removal from the vicinity of the society holding the property, or in case of those who were members of the Church at the time of appointment by ceasing to be members, or by ejectment from office; nevertheless, no person who is a Trustee shall be ejected while he is joint security for money, unless such relief be given him as is demanded, or the creditor will accept.

"In the case of Boards of Trustees heretofore created, the existing rule, as follows, and as provided for in the deeds of settlement, shall stand, unless by Act of Parliament the foregoing is allowed to apply, to-wit: Whenever any one or more Trustees, or successor or successors of a Trustee, shall die or cease to be a member of said Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, according to the rules and Discipline of the said Church, or on the circuit or station within the bounds of which the property for which he is a Trustee is located, or shall resign his trusteeship in writing which has been accepted by the existing Board of Trustees, the vacant place or places of the Trustee or Trustees, so dying, ceasing to be a member or members of the Church, or so resigning, may be filled with a successor or successors, being a member or members of the said Church, of the age of twenty-one years." (The remainder of the section to stand as it is.)*

Item II. Page 63 of Discipline—Add the following as Ans. 14 to Ques. 1, as found on Page 62: "14. To give special and vigorous attention to the circulation of the *Canada Christian Advocate*, and the collection of all arrearages, and report at each Quarterly Conference the number of subscribers, as well as sums due the *Advocate* office.

Item III. Page 162, Sec. 5: No. 2 to be expunged—The Committee recommend that this paragraph be not expunged.

Report No. 6.

The following paper was referred to the Committee, to wit: That Ans. 3 of Sec. 2, Page 27 of the Book of Discipline be referred to the Committee on Revision, with instructions to so amend the article that it shall require two-thirds of the General Conference to constitute a quorum. After consideration, we recommend that the answer be made to read as follows: "At all times when the General Conference is met, it shall take two-thirds of the ministerial members elected to make a quorum for the transaction of

* The provision for resignations was adopted on condition that it does not conflict with the statute.

business"—the change being that the words "its members then present" are struck out, and the words "the ministerial members elected" inserted.

The Committee on Revision have examined all the papers which have been referred to them from time to time, and after bestowing on them the thought and attention that they were able, have returned them with such recommendations as seemed to them to be wise and judicious, and they have now presented their final report.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES CURTS, *Secretary.*

ELIJAH H. PILCHER, *Chairman.*

BELLEVILLE, Sept. 7, 1878.

Supplementary Report No. 1.

That Articles 2 and 6 of the Constitution of the Parent Missionary Society be so changed as to read:

"ART. 2. The Board of Management shall consist of a President, who shall be the officiating Bishop; nine ministers, three of whom shall be Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary; and three laymen—all of whom shall be elected by the General Conference."

"ART. 6. The Board shall meet annually in the last week in June, or as soon thereafter as practicable, at the call of the President, the place of meeting to be decided by the Board."

That Items III. and IV. of Revision No. 6, page 16 of Journals of 1874, be expunged.

[All adopted.]

No. 2.

That we suspend Rule 15 of the Rules of Order, and adopt the following, to be inserted in the Discipline:

Page 27, Pt. II., Chap. 1, Sec. 2, Ques. 1—Add as Ans. 5: "Each General Conference shall elect by ballot, without debate, a Secretary or Secretaries, whose duty it shall be to keep a correct record of its proceedings, and publish the minutes under the direction of the General Conference."

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPORAL ECONOMY.

Report No. 1.

Item I. Sec. 2, Page 161, first paragraph—Expunge last sentence. [Adopted.]

Item II. Sec. 3, Page 161, second paragraph—Expunge the answer, and substitute the following: "The Annual Conference shall determine the salary required and the amount payable on each pastoral charge. The Quarterly Meeting Conference shall appoint one Steward, who shall secure the payment quarterly. [Not adopted.]

Item III. Sec. 4, Page 161, second line of question—Change the word "stipend" to "salary." [Adopted.]

Item IV. Expunge the answer and substitute the following: "The Stewards shall provide for the collections and disbursements of the allowance to ministers, and meet at the call of the pastor, and take care that all the sums required on the pastoral charge shall be secured in each congregation quarterly, and report to the Quarterly Meeting Conference." [This item was lost.]

Item V. That a Finance Committee shall be appointed in each congregation, consisting of the Stewards therein and others, who shall secure the amount for pastor's salary, and report by payment monthly to the pastor, and quarterly a full account of the receipts and by whom contributed, to the Stewards. [This item was lost.]

Item VI. The Stewards, at the call of the pastor, shall apportion the amount required from each congregation, and instruct the Finance Committee to collect it. [This item was lost.]

Item VII. The minimum amount for the salary of a married man shall be seven hundred dollars. The minimum amount for a single man a member of the Conference shall be three hundred and fifty dollars. The minimum for a probationer, two hundred and fifty dollars, subject to the approval of the Quarterly Meeting Conference. [This item was lost.]

J. GARDINER,
Chairman.

JOSEPH YOUNG,
Secretary.

Report No. 2.

Item I. That each Annual Conference shall secure within its bounds the amount required to meet the following claims for its superannuates: 1. That five years' effective labor in the ministry entitle to a claim of $40; ten years, to $60; fifteen years, to $80; twenty years, to $100; thirty years, to an addition of 10 per cent., and forty years, of 15 per cent. annually, intermediate years to claim according to the above scale, giving an earlier claim for the shorter period of service. The wife or widow of each claimant shall be entitled to a claim equal to the husband, as above, to twenty years. The maximum to be $100. [This was adopted.]

Item II. (*a*) Page 163, eleventh line—Change words "composed of" to "including."

(*b*) Page 163, third line from bottom—Change from "two" to "four."*

(*c*) Page 164—Change after the word "Conference," so as to read, "from the reserve fund, to the amount of $20 each annually, to the age of fifteen years."

(*d*) Page 164, second line—Expunge "or from the fifth collection." [Adopted.]

JOSEPH YOUNG, *Secretary.* J. GARDINER, *Chairman.*

Report No. 3.

That the monies in the hands of Bishop Carman be appropriated as follows:

(Amount appropriated to the Superannuated Preachers' Fund of Niagara Annual Conference to be sent by the hands of R. C. Parsons.)

By will of Alem Kelly, to Superannuated Preachers' Fund, $75, in equal parts to each Conference; to Missionary funds, $50; To education, $50—Albert College, $25; Alma, $25—all to be invested. Church Extension, $25.

[Adopted.]

JOSEPH YOUNG, *Secretary.* J. GARDINER, *Chairman.*

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* (*b*) was amended to read, "each preacher pay two dollars, and each single claimant one dollar." The whole item was then adopted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LAY DELEGATION.

To the Bishop and Members of the General Conference:

The Committee on Lay Delegation respectfully present the following report:

Resolved, I. That Lay Delegates be admitted to membership in the General Conference.

Resolved, II. That all previous legislation upon the question of lay representation in the General Conference be, and is hereby declared to be, repealed.

Resolved, III. That the following amendments be made to Section II, page 26, in our Book of Discipline, in answer to the question, "Who shall compose the General Conference, and what are the regulations and powers belonging to it?"

1. The General Conference shall be composed of an equal number of Ministerial and Lay Delegates. The Ministerial Delegates shall consist of one member for every four members of each Annual Conference, to be appointed by seniority or choice at the discretion of such Annual Conference, yet so that such representative shall have travelled at least four years from the time that they were received on trial by an Annual Conference, and are in full connection at the time of holding the Conference, and have been ordained to the office of Elders.

2. The Lay Delegates shall be chosen by an Electoral Conference of laymen, which shall assemble for that purpose on the fourth day of the session of the Annual Conference, at the place of its meeting, at its session immediately preceding the General Conference.

3. The Electoral Conference shall be composed of one layman from each Circuit, Station, or Mission within the bounds of the Annual Conference; and on assembling, the Electoral Conference shall organize by electing a chairman and secretary of their own number, such layman to be chosen by the last Quarterly Conference preceding the time of the assembling of such Electoral Conference: *Provided*, that no layman shall be chosen a Delegate either to the Electoral Conference, or to the General Conference, who shall be under twenty-five years of age; or, who shall not have been a

member of the Church in full connection for three consecutive years preceding the election.*

4. The Ministerial and Lay Delegates shall sit, deliberate, and vote together as one body.

Your Committee recommend the following method for obtaining the sense of the laity of the Church upon the above measure:

The pastor of each Circuit, Station, or Mission shall call a meeting of the members of the Church in each locality where there is an appointment for preaching, said meeting to be held at some time during the month of January, 1879, and at the place of holding the regular public religious services, and of which meeting due notice shall be given by public announcement from the pulpit at the two regular public services preceding the date fixed for taking the vote, except where two public services are held regularly on the Sabbath, in which case the announcement shall be made at both services on the two preceding Sabbaths. When the meeting for taking the vote is convened, the pastor, or some person appointed by him for that purpose, shall distinctly read the measure to be submitted, and without debate offer such verbal explanations as may be asked, when all persons present who are of the full age of twenty-one years, and are in full membership in the Church, shall be entitled to vote for or against, the vote to be taken without debate. It shall be the further duty of the pastor or his representative to make an accurate record of the name of each person voting, and to state opposite the name whether the vote is for or against the measure submitted; and when the vote on his charge shall have been concluded, it shall be the duty of the pastor to transmit under seal to his Presiding Elder a certified statement of the members voting for or against, and also to place on the minute-book of the Recording Steward a certified record of the total numbers voting for or against. It shall be the duty of each Presiding Elder, as early as practicable after he shall have received the several reports from the pastors on his District, to transmit them under seal to the Bishop, who with the President of Albert College and the Presiding Elder of Colborne District shall be a committee to count the votes given; and if it shall be found that a majority of

* The Secretaries of the several Annual and Electoral Conferences shall send to the Secretary of the last General Conference, a certified copy of the Election of Delegates and Reserves to the next General Conference, in the order of their election, as soon after the election as practicable, so that a roll of members and reserves may be prepared for the opening of the next General Conference.

NOTE.—Answers Nos. 2, 3, and 4 as they now stand in the Discipline shall be numbered 5, 6, and 7 respectively.

the votes are for the above measure, it shall be the law of the Church, and shall be so declared by the Bishop, by public notice in the columns of the *C. C. Advocate.*

All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. D. HUGHSON,
J. R. JAQUES,
A. E. GRIFFITH,
GEO. ABBS,
H. WILLIAMS.

S. G. STONE,
Secretary.

COMMITTEE ROOMS, BELLEVILLE,
August 30, 1878.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY.

Report No. 1.

The Committee on Episcopacy have great pleasure in reporting that, after careful examination, they find the Bishop blameless in life and character.

Report No. 2.

Item I. That we approve the administration of the Bishop during the nearly four years of his superintendency of the Church.

Item II. That the salary of the Bishop be twelve hundred dollars per annum.

Item III. That the Bishop be allowed one hundred and fifty dollars per annum for travelling expenses.

Item IV. That the above amount of $1350 be divided to the Annual Conferences for collection and payment, as follows: Niagara Conference, $500; and Ontario and Bay Quinte each $425.

Item V. We would beg leave respectfully to suggest to the Conference, and through the Conference to the Circuits, that they be sparing in their calls on the Bishop for special services, thereby leaving him more at leisure to arrange his Episcopal visitations, as health, time and conveniences may suggest.

In behalf of the Committee,

THOMAS WEBSTER,
JOHN N. ELLIOTT.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE CHURCH.

Your Committee, to whom was referred this subject, beg leave to report as follows:

During the last four years the Church has enjoyed great spiritual prosperity, and under its influence thousands of persons have been added to the membership.

At the present, there is a healthy spiritual and numerical growth in all our borders.

The ministrations and labors of our General Superintendent, Rev. A. Carman, M.A., D.D., have been well received and highly appreciated.

The ministers of our Church have shown great devotion, and have given untiring energy to their work, and God has granted them "favor in the eyes of the people."

During the four years last past there has been an increased attention given to the work of our Church in cities and towns, which has resulted, in many cases, in the consolidation of our interests, and increasing the influence of our Church in the land.

The Sabbath School work has undergone a greater improvement than in any quadrennial period in our history—teachers equipping themselves more thoroughly, and the children advancing more rapidly. No doubt much of this may be ascribed to the incomparable system of lessons now in almost universal use—namely, the "International System."

There have been, through the agency of our Sabbath Schools, many conversions among the children. "We rejoice and are glad."

In financial matters our liabilities are great, but we devoutly believe not beyond the means of a Church whose membership and

adherents are numerically so strong as ours, situated as they are amid surroundings so helpful to prosperity.

Our educational institutions, which have been formerly noted, are still prosperous, under the Presidency and care of Rev. J. R. Jaques, D.D., Ph.D., successor of Rev. A. Carman, M.A., D.D., appointed to the position since the last meeting of this General Conference.

In addition, another institution of learning has been projected, the buildings of which are now in the course of erection. We refer to Alma College, situated at St. Thomas, Ontario. Twenty thousand dollars have been subscribed, and the agents now in the field canvassing for further amounts are receiving encouraging assistance. We bespeak for this noble project complete success.

The Missionary Board, during the last quadrennial period, has, in its efforts for the advancement of the cause of God, gone to "lands beyond," and has established missions in the Province of Manitoba. The Society has almost "stretched itself beyond itself." The faith which has, no doubt, been at the foundation of these efforts, calls for a hearty and generous support on the part of our people.

The printing establishment and Book Room are proving very successful under the able supervision of Rev. S. G. Stone, D.D. The prospect is bright. We believe that we have a healthful future before us in this department of our Church enterprise.

Our superannuated claimants are increasing in numbers. We would be happy to note a great increase in the funds devoted to their support.

Again we are glad to say our people hold firmly to "the faith once delivered to the saints," as taught in the word of God, and handed down to us by our fathers.

In polity and usage our people are Methodists—yea, more, *Episcopal Methodists*, desiring to "keep the rules, and not mend them."

In conclusion, your Committee would say: We are comforted by the success of the past, thankful that the hand of the Lord is with us in the present, and rejoicing in God at the prospect so encouraging before us.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. SANDERSON,
F. CHISHOLM,
G. S. WHITE,
J. R. PHILLIPS,
J. T. DAVIS.

COMMITTEE ROOM, BELLEVILLE,
Sept. 6, 1878.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Resolved, I. That we devoutly acknowledge the goodness and mercy of God that has attended our efforts in the past, and humbly pray that He will continue to guide us with His counsel, inspire us with wisdom and zeal, and bless our labors.

II. That we consider it most unwise to involve ourselves in the building of churches on missions, when we have to mortgage them and pay from 12 to 36 per cent. interest on such debts.

III. That in view of the sparsely settled condition of the Province of Manitoba, the missionaries be instructed to confine their labors principally to the centres of population, and work out as opportunity offers.

IV. That we urge upon the Board and the Missionaries the absolute need of economy in all their expenditure, inasmuch as it will require the greatest effort and sacrifice to carry on our work at home, and at the same time support our missions.

V. That the General Conference recognize the Women's Missionary Society as one of the regular institutions of the Church, and auxiliary to the Ontario Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

VI. That as our funds are being expended from year to year on charges that ought to be self-sustaining, we urge the Annual Conferences to withdraw such help as soon as practicable.

VII. That our Missionaries should write more frequently and fully concerning their work to the *C. C. Advocate*, that our people may become acquainted and interested in our mission fields and missionaries.

VIII. That the second Sabbath in June be called the Children's Day, and that it be the anniversary of the Sabbath School Missionary circles.

W. H. Graham,
Thos. W. Pickett,
Thos. Argue,
W. G. Brown.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS.

Report No. 1.

Your Committee on Memorials beg leave to report, as follows:

That having carefully examined the memorial of J. O. Snider, referred to them by the Conference, they find no ground of complaint on the part of the memorialist.

G. Abbs,
E. Bristol,
J. H. Andrews.
G. Bennett.
W. Brown.

Belleville, Sept. 5, 1878.

[Report adopted.]

Report No. 2.

The Committee, to whom was referred the memorial of Philip Sulzer and George R. Smith, beg leave to report:

That having carefully examined the above-named document, and given it their most deliberate consideration, they would present the following resolutions for adoption by the Conference:

Resolved, I. That the memorialists having held the office of Stewards in the Church, and having been allowed, without demur, to vote in that capacity at three consecutive Quarterly Conferences, they could not, at the fourth, be regarded as probationers, or deprived of their vote without a disciplinary process, there being nothing official against their character.

Resolved, II. That, occupying the position above indicated, the preacher in charge did not possess the right to deprive them of membership without bringing their case before the Society.

Resolved, III. That as the names of the memorialists were erased from the Circuit register, in contravention of our usage and the rules of Discipline, they should be restored to membership.

Respectfully submitted,

Geo. Abbs,
E. Bristol,
J. H. Andrews,
G. Bennett,
W. Brown.

Belleville, Sept. 6, 1878.

[The report was not adopted by the Conference.]

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON METHODIST UNION.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, in General Conference assembled, Belleville, 1878.

Your Committee on Methodist Union, appointed at the Napanee General Conference, 1874, and ordered to report to the next General Conference, would respectfully report:

I. That no meeting of the Committee has been held during the Quadrennium, inasmuch as it did not appear to your Committee that occasion arose to call such meeting. Your Committee did not conceive that it had been vested by the General Conference with powers or privilege to initiate measures, propose schemes, or originate and offer facilities of union; but to demonstrate to the Churches that our Church is ready to reciprocate proper movements for the unification of the Methodist bodies under a safe polity and discipline, to cherish the spirit of unity, and to embrace opportunities that might arise to promote by union what is conceived to contribute to the advancement of the Churches and the glory of God.

II. But while it has not appeared to your Committee, under all the circumstances, necessary to meet in the interests of *Methodist Union*, it is constantly and firmly believed to be our duty and one of our highest privileges to cultivate *Christian unity* and denominational *amity* in the bonds of the glorious gospel. And further, we believe this to be the action of our Church, ministers and people throughout the land. Your Committee would emphatically declare their willingness and desire, at all times and in all places, to promote in all suitable ways the warmest fraternal regard for all our brethren in the various branches of the Methodist family, as well as the most sincere and earnest Christian unity among all the Churches, for we are persuaded that this is the spirit and mind of Christ. We recognize the right of each and all to live and labor in this land for the spread of religion and the salvation of men, and in the prosecution of this work, and in the true spirit of our holy Christianity we extend to all a brother's hand and a hearty prayer for the success of their agencies in the accomplishment of the good purposes of the Lord of all.

IV. That in proof of this our desire for extended and cordial fraternity, and for the cultivation of this Christian unity, we rec-

ommend the appointment of fraternal delegations by this General Conference to the Primitive Methodist Church and to the Bible Christian Church, as they appear in their Conferences in Canada, as well as the continuance of these relations with the Methodist Church of Canada, and the invitation of reciprocity of feeling and action from them.

V. That concerning the subject of Methodist union, your Committee in the present stage of the discussion upon the question and the present attitude of the Churches with regard to it, deem it sufficient to reaffirm the action of the Napanee General Conference of 1874, to this extent and effect, viz.: We consider the unification of Methodism highly desirable, and recommend this General Conference to appoint a committee of ten, to remain in force and effect till next General Conference and report thereto, to be called by the Bishop, with powers to correspond with other Methodist bodies on the question of Methodist union, and to take such steps as they shall deem necessary to maintain the proper relation of our Church to the movement, and promote the better understanding and harmonious action of the Churches, and cultivate the Christian unity which shall be the cement and bond of the organic union we may desire to be accomplished in the good providence of God by some future General Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

J. GARDINER,
Chairman.

F. B. STRATTON,
Secretary.

CONFERENCE ROOM,
Sept. 6, 1878.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy report that the Journals of all the Conferences have been examined. The Committee would point out the following defects:

I. The penmanship in a number of cases is hasty, and the entries crowded into a solid page of writing, with no intervals of space between the items recorded.

II. Erasures and interlineations occur in several instances, by which the record is confused and its appearance marred.

III. In two important cases the record was not sufficiently full and clear. The minute was obscure and scant, while the action recorded was clear.

IV. The marginal references of one of the Journals are carelessly written.

V. In most instances the names of members in attendance are not recorded.

VI. In very few instances are the reports of Standing and other Committees presented.

To secure improvement in the Journals your Committee would offer the following suggestions:

I. Let the Bishop call attention of Secretaries and their assistants to imperfect and defective records, and urge compliance with the directions of the General Conference upon this subject.

II. All reports which cannot be entered in the daily proceedings should be recorded after the adjournment of Conference in an appendix.

III. Let each page of the Journal be numbered and properly headed with place and date of session.

IV. Let the proceedings be carefully entered with great neatness after they have been approved by the Conference.

V. Let the roll of names of members be neatly and carefully written with columns to note their presence or absence for the four succeeding years.

VI. All the statistics, both Sunday School and general, as well as the appointments, should be entered in writing in the appendix to each year.

A full and complete index should be made to each Journal.

Your Committee would further recommend the following items:

I. In all cases of trial before the Conference, or a select number, let the record be full, and where papers are referred to let them be carefully distinguished. Let the charges and decision be spread upon the Journal.

II. Let the proceedings of each session be promptly entered in the Journals, and amid the pressure of the business of the closing sessions, let great diligence be used in this respect, that all may be ready for the signature of the President.

III. It is needless to say that blots, erasures, interlineations, abbreviations or hasty penmanship can only be discreditable to a Conference when the Journal is under the inspection of the Committee on Itinerancy.

Your Committee discovered in examining the Journals of the Conferences the following cases of reference and appeal to this General Conference, viz. :

Journals of Niagara Conference for year 1876, 2d Session, page 409 : "The Rev. J. Gardiner gave notice that he will appeal to the General Conference on the resolution of the former session on the manner of the election of the Advisory Committee, as illegal :

"An objection to the motion was stated challenging the right to elect by anything less than a major vote. I therefore appeal from the action and ask the General Conference to declare whether it is constitutional to elect for any purpose without a majority of those voting.

"Signed, JAMES GARDINER.

"April 19th, 1876."

In the Journals of Niagara Conference for the year 1878, 7th Session, page 469, is the following record : "George H. Backhouse recommended by the Erie District Local Preachers' Conference for election to Deacon's orders.—Elected."

The following objection was made to the above by J. Gardiner : "I refer the reference of this election to the General Conference as opposed to the rules regarding time and regular license.

"Signed, J. GARDINER."

In the Journals of the Bay Quinte Conference for 12th Session, 1876, is the following record : "The Rev. J. D. Bell appealed against the ruling of the Bishop in the case of J. Brill, as follows :

"I appeal against the ruling that an indefinite suspension for immorality expires with the year."

All of which is respectfully submitted,

E. LOUNSBURY,
Chairman.
J. H. ANDREWS,
A. CAMPBELL,
W. H. GRAHAM.

S. CARD,
Secretary.

Belleville, Aug. 31st, 1878.

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PART III.

FRATERNAL LETTERS.

From the Methodist Episcopal Church to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

It is exceedingly gratifying to us to hear of your prosperity, and to be assured of your Christian love. Bishop Carman and Rev. E. Lounsbury addressed our General Conference in words befitting the occasion, and were received as messengers of the Church of God, and as brethren of our own household. It would be natural for us to feel very kindly towards you, who are bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh.

The introduction of laymen into our General Conference produced no friction, but has drawn ministers and laymen together nearer than ever. We feel it to be our duty, as rapidly as possible, to extend our missions to the uttermost parts of the earth. This is the first great work of the Church. Education, secular and religious, still commands our attention and resources. Our Sunday Schools are prosperous beyond any former experiences. Our work in the West and South is increasing in strength. Humbly relying on the Almighty for help, we are going forth in the hope of doing our part in bringing the world to Christ. A most gratifying spirit of fraternity is springing up all all over our land.

Methodists are coming nearer together, and for this we bless God, if even nothing comes from it but an increase of brotherly love. We hold ourselves ready to exert all our influence in the interests of peace, good will, and, as far as possible, union.

Our representative will convey to you our regards, and inform you of our state. May the blessing of God rest upon you!

WILLIAM L. HARRIS,
President.

GEORGE W. WOODRUFF,
Sec'y of the Gen. Conf. of the M. E. Church.

NEW YORK, May 10, 1878.

The Methodist Church of Canada to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada.

DEAR BRETHREN:

We have much pleasure in acknowledging your very brotherly greeting and salutation conveyed to us by your deputation, the Rev. James Gardiner and the Rev. Michael Benson. The assurances thus given us—both in your letter and in the communications of these brethren—are the more pleasing, as they so clearly give evidence of a charity which can rejoice in the prosperity of others even as in their own.

It has been necessary, as you say, that we should divide our extensive field of labor, and thus place it under the administration of several Annual Conferences, while at the same time, by a General Conference, to preserve our unity, and thereby increase our efficiency. Our success in the past—for which with you we give glory to God—the Father, Son and Holy Spirit—have rendered such a duty so manifest, that we have felt impelled to recognize and act upon it.

We join you most heartily in thankfulness that your Church can rejoice over those attending influences of the Holy Spirit upon your ministry, manifested in the conversion of sinners and in the upbuilding of believers; and we pray that in years to come, as in those that are past, you may have abundantly this Scriptural and truest evidence of Apostolicity as ministers of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour.

To you, as to us, dear brethren, the prayer of our divine Lord is greatly important at this time and in this connection. It will not, we are sure, be thought by you untimely or irrelevant to introduce it here: "Neither pray I for them alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one, as thou Father art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent

me; and the glory which thou gavest me I have given them, that they may be one, even as we are one. I in them, and they in me, that they may be made perfect in me, and that the world may know that thou has sent me, and hast loved them as thou hast loved me." With such a oneness it were little to say that Ephraim would not envy Judah, nor Judah vex Ephraim: for in the flowing tide of divine attestation and unction, which such a condition would secure, there would be other and more desirable subjects for our thoughts and feelings.

We are fain to believe that no great difficulty can be in the way of effecting more closely and fully than ever the unity for which our Lord prayed with those who, like your Church and ours, there exist so many things in common, and especially in the felt duty and privilege of offering to all whom our ministry can reach a free, full and present salvation, through faith alone in the one only and all-sufficient sacrifice of the Son of God.

Praying that we all might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding we remain your brethren in the kingdom and patience of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Signed by order and on behalf of the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, Toronto, Ontario, this first day of October, 1874.

E. RYERSON,
President.

DUNCAN D. CURRIE,
Secretary.

ADDRESS TO THE MARQUIS OF LORNE.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir John Douglas Sutherland Campbell, K. T. G., C. M. G., &c., &c., Marquis of Lorne and Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, in its regular quadrennial session, at Belleville, Ontario, in September, 1878, having learned with great satisfaction that the choice of her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria had fallen upon your Excellency to be Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada; and that it had been the pleasure of your

Excellency to accept the appointment at the hands of our august Sovereign; and anticipating with delight your arrival in the Dominion and assumption of the reigns of government over us, heartily resolved to greet your Excellency with a humble and loyal address of welcome, and to approach you with assurances of the continued devotion of our people to the throne and crown of our United Empire; of their cordial reception of every representative of her Majesty's rule in this Dominion; and especially of the respect and affection of all our people for your Excellency personally, of ancient and honorable lineage, and for your consort of royal blood—all the dearer to us because the daughter of our beloved Queen. By your coming forth from one of the noblest houses of the kingdom and the very family circle of royalty itself, we feel more than ever the unity of this grand empire and the acknowledgment at home that we are part and parcel thereof, members of a mighty body politic, welcome sharers in a glorious history. And we can assure your Excellency that these gracious acts of the Government at home and your coming to us in the spirit and disposition of these acts, the embodiment and messenger of such a confidence and regard, endear yourself and your noble consort to us, give you a warm place in our hearts, and a true welcome to our land, our institutions, and our homes. We gratefully accept the trust thus reposed in us by a nation's voice and a mother's heart, and we are persuaded that, on our part, our tender appreciation of this confidence and regard will be more and more manifest as the years roll on. And our prayer shall continually arise to Almighty God, the Father of us all, the source of all authority and power, the rewarder of all fidelity and obedience, that your Excellency's sojourn among us may be an ever-brightening career, ever strengthening the bonds of official regard and personal affection; equally satisfactory to the Imperial Government, the people of Canada, and to yourself, to whom we obediently and loyally look as the representative of royal authority among us.

The Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, founded early in the history of the country, and now embracing a constituency of about one hundred and fifty thousand of the Canadian people, ever loyal to the British crown, and firmly attached to British institutions and usages, rejoices to be permitted in this free land, with rights secure and convictions unfettered, to share with Christian fellow-laborers of every name in the blessed work of spreading among the people the benefits of religion, education, righteousness, temperance, and peace. To this work, both in ministry and membership, does it feel itself especially called and devoted, obeying with joy the command of the Holy Scriptures to honor the king, and to pray for all that are in authority, that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty. Wherefore we put them in mind to obey magistrates, to submit themselves to

every ordinance of man, for the Lord's sake, whether it be unto kings, as supreme, or unto governors, as those that are sent by them for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of them that do well. To further these ends, also so indispensable to good order and public peace and prosperity, we build our colleges, establish our missions, and perpetuate the ministry of the Word, always maintaining that they who preach the Gospel shall live of the Gospel. In such a spirit will the temporal and spiritual welfare of your Excellency ever be remembered in our approaches to the throne of the heavenly grace, that your life and health and the life and health of your wife, the noble Marchioness, be always precious in the sight of God, and that you be guided and strengthened from above to a peaceful and eminently successful administration of the government of the Dominion of Canada.]

Signed in behalf of the General Conference,

A. CARMAN,
President.

F. B. STRATTON,
Secretary.

BELLEVILLE, Sept. 5, 1878.

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